

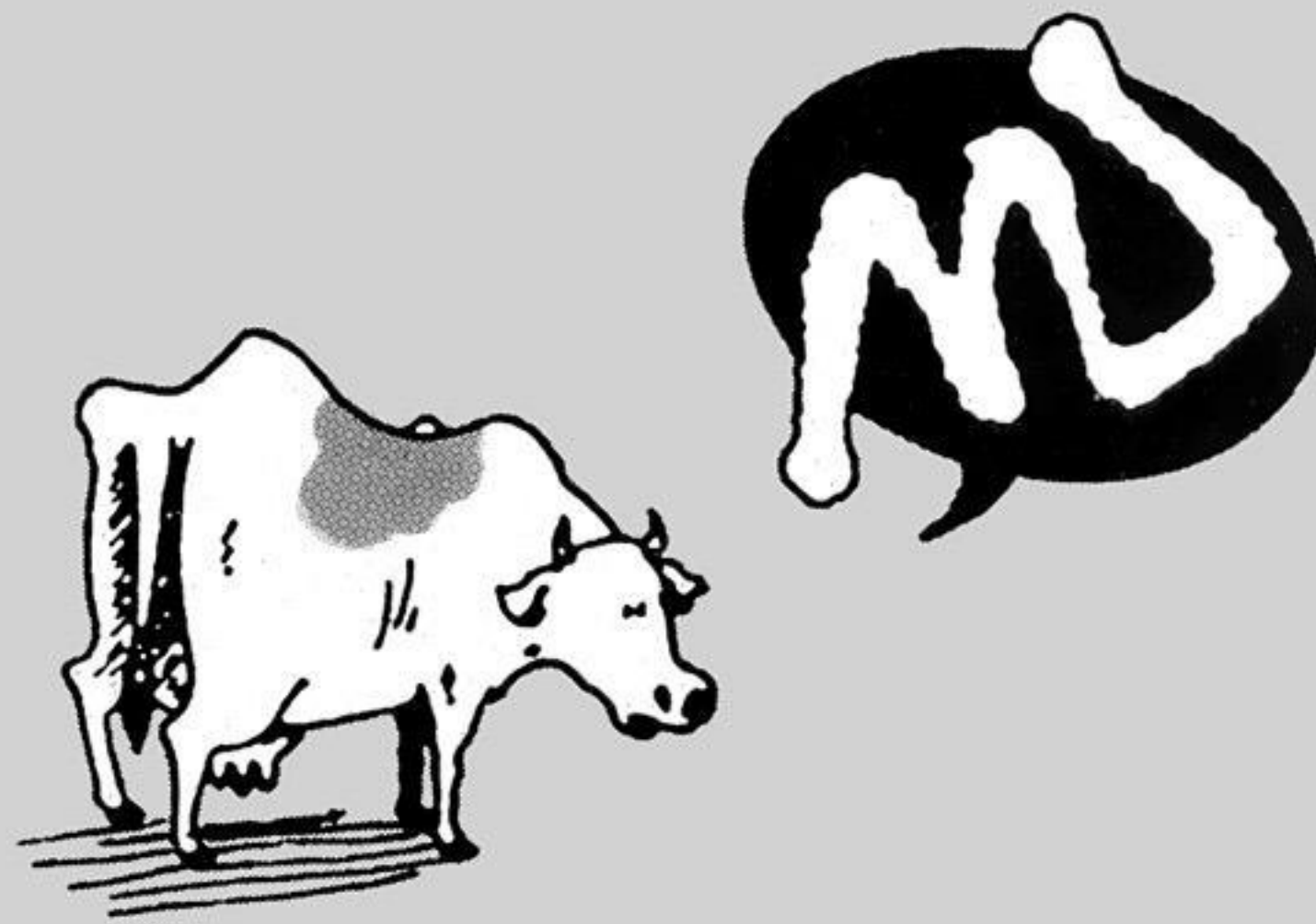


MU PRESS
MAD
RACCOONS
\$2.50
\$3.00 CAN.

BY
CATHY HILL



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MU Press welcomes you to the world of Cathy Hill's *Mad Raccoons*.

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Written & Illustrated by Cathy Hill

Produced by Edd Vick
Art Direction by Cindy Murata



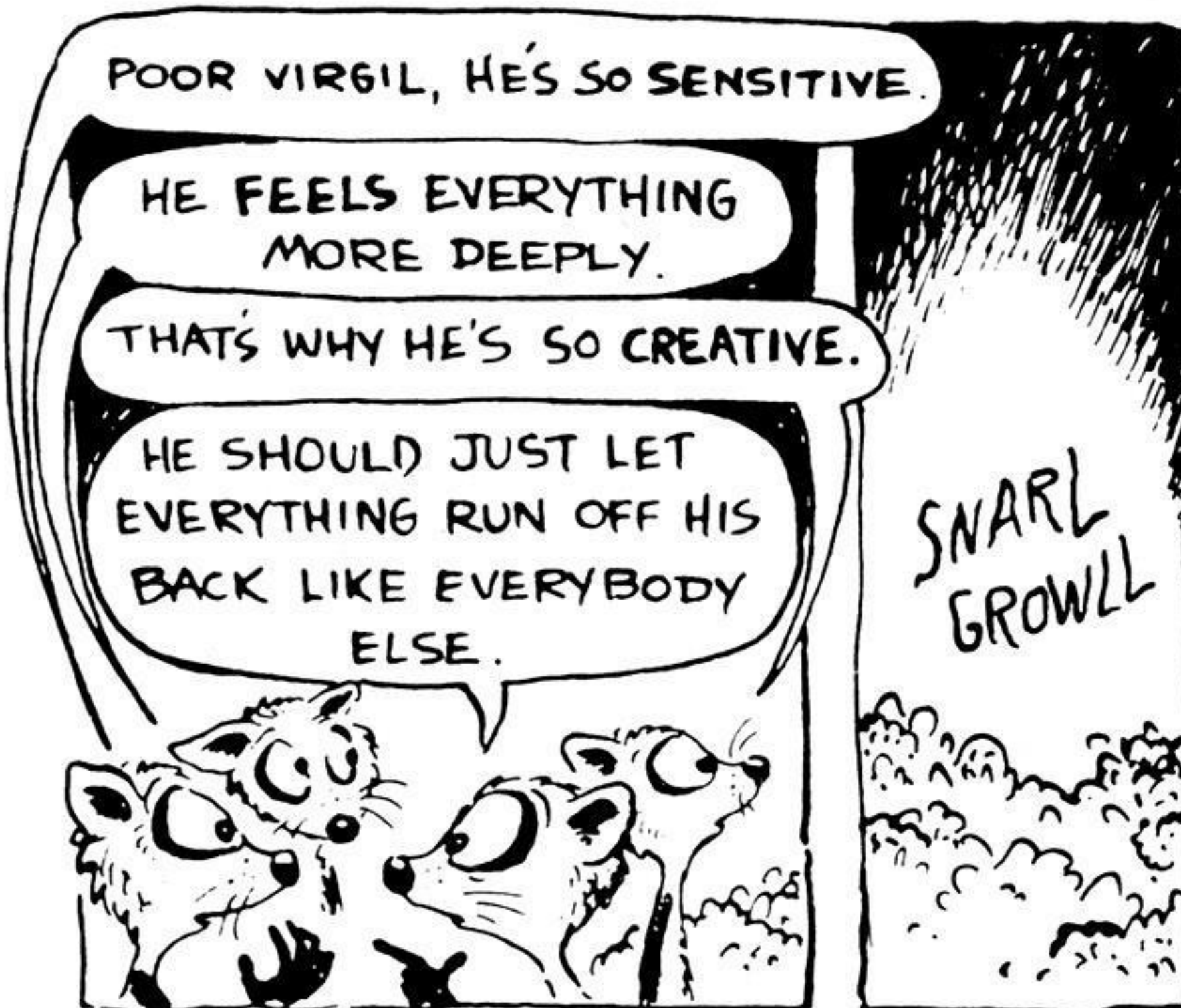
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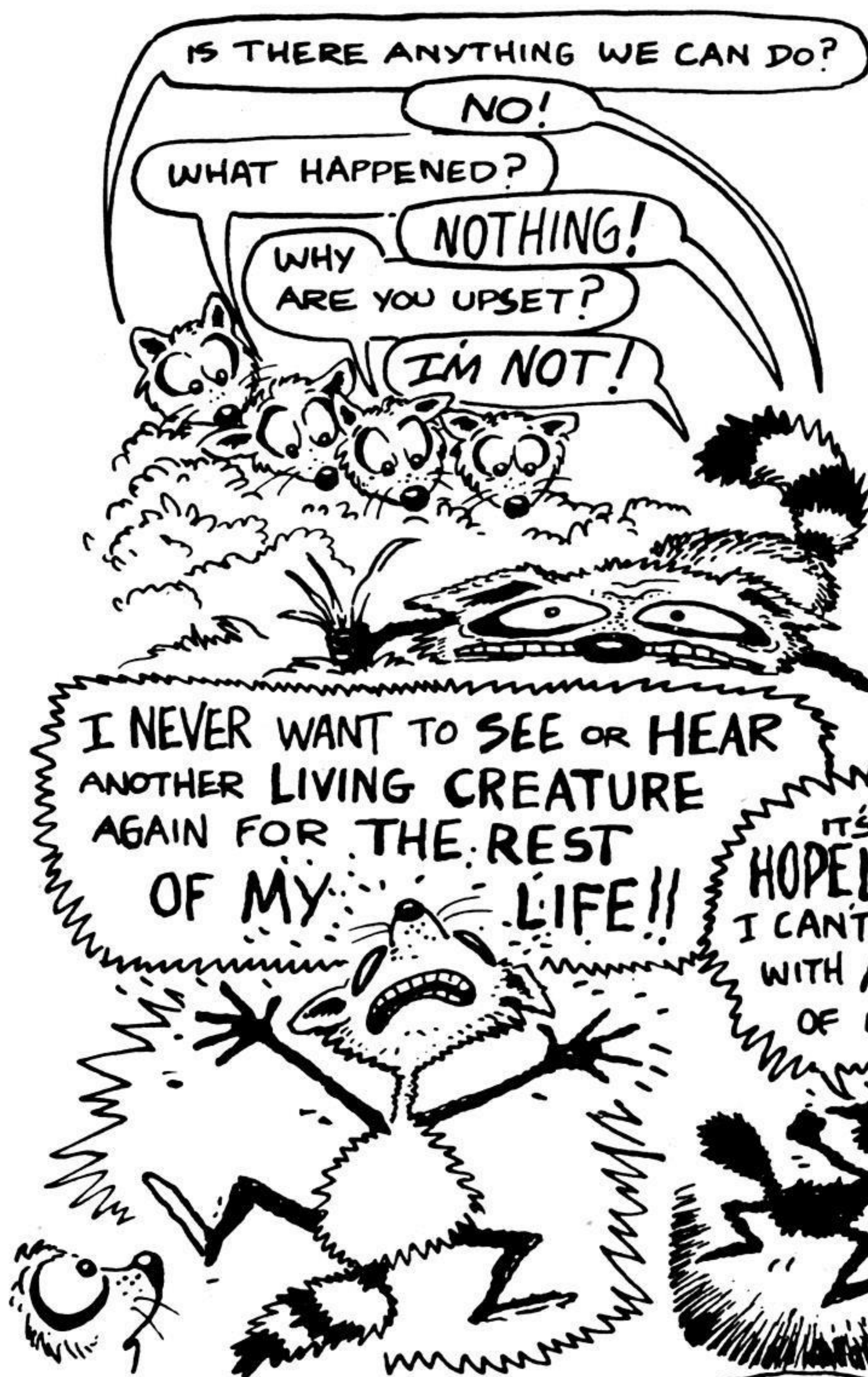
VIRGIL FREAKS OUT

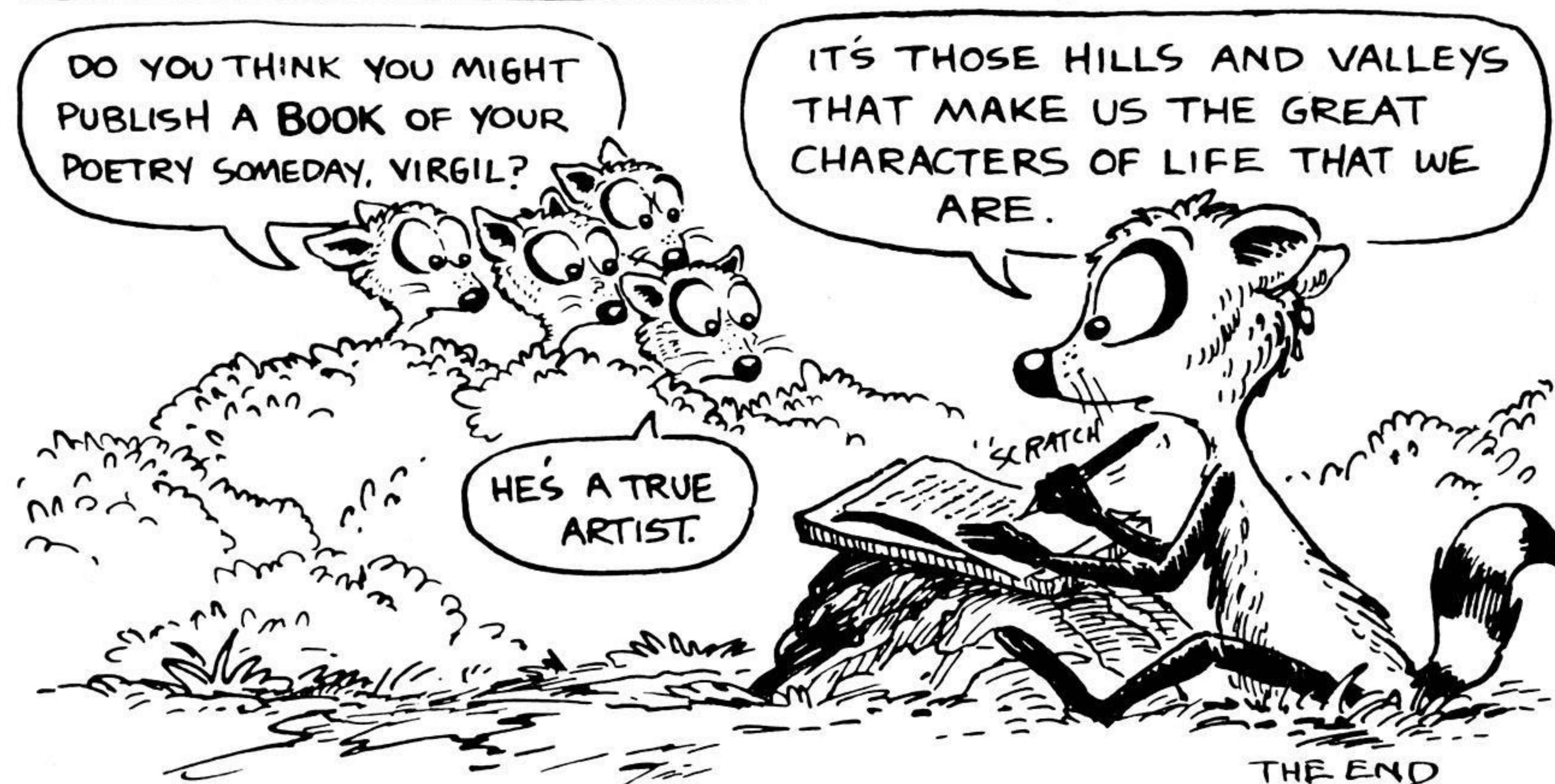


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THAT'S IT! I'VE HAD IT!
I'M THROUGH! I'M LEAVING!
I CAN'T STAND ANYMORE!







THE NATURAL RACCOON

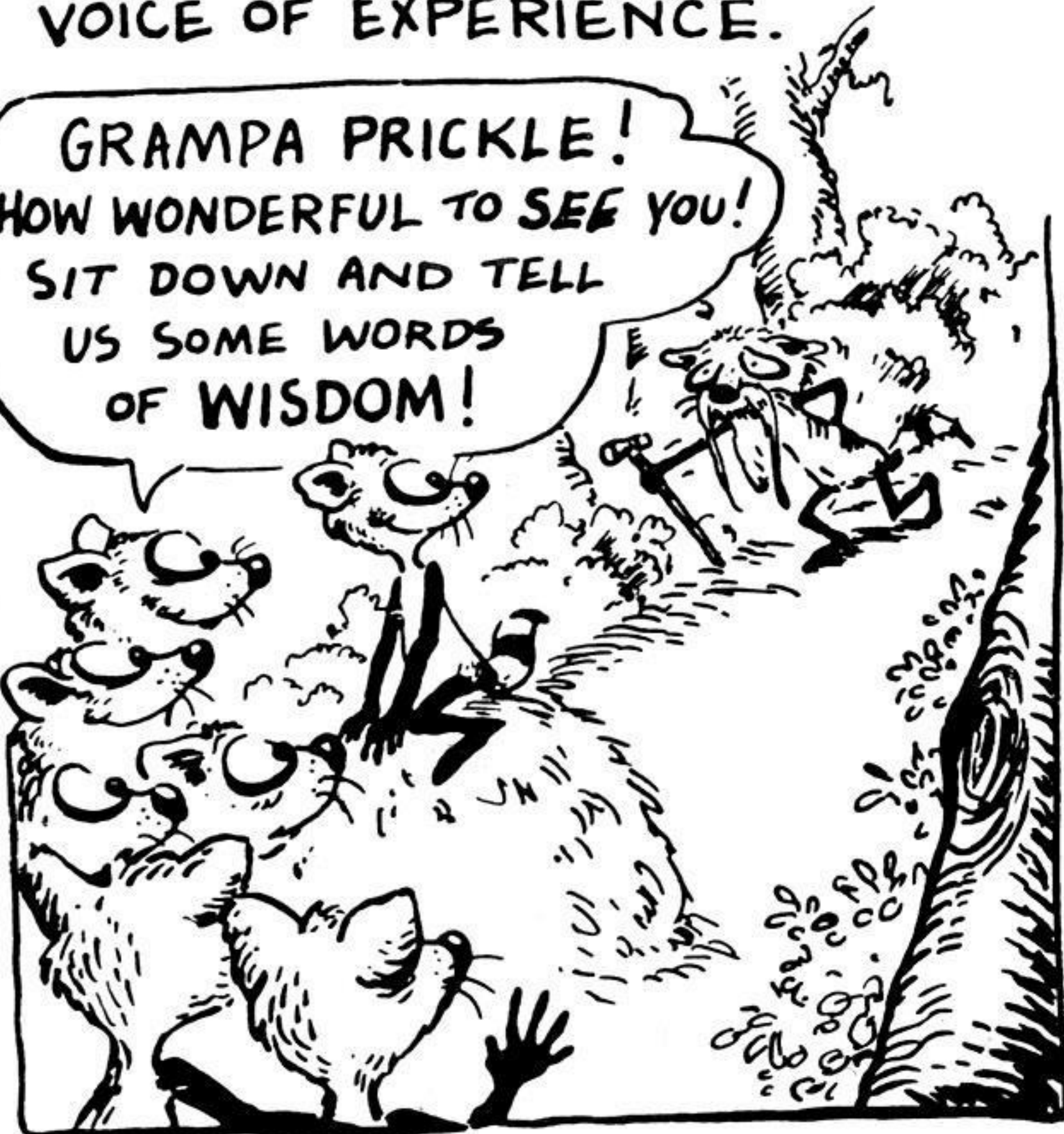
RACCOONS APPRECIATE THE WONDERS OF NATURE
AND TAKE GOOD CARE OF THEIR WOODS.

THEY BELIEVE IN
THE NATURAL RHYTHM
OF THE UNIVERSE
AND IN STAYING IN
STEP WITH IT.



■ RACCOONS ALWAYS HAVE
RESPECT FOR THEIR ELDERS
AND LISTEN TO THEIR VALUED
VOICE OF EXPERIENCE.

GRAMPA PRICKLE!
HOW WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU!
SIT DOWN AND TELL
US SOME WORDS
OF WISDOM!



THE EDGE OF THE WORLD
IS COMING CLOSER!



WHAT DID HE SAY?
THE HEDGE OF THE WORLD?

HE WANTS US TO CUT THE
HEDGE? WHAT HEDGE?

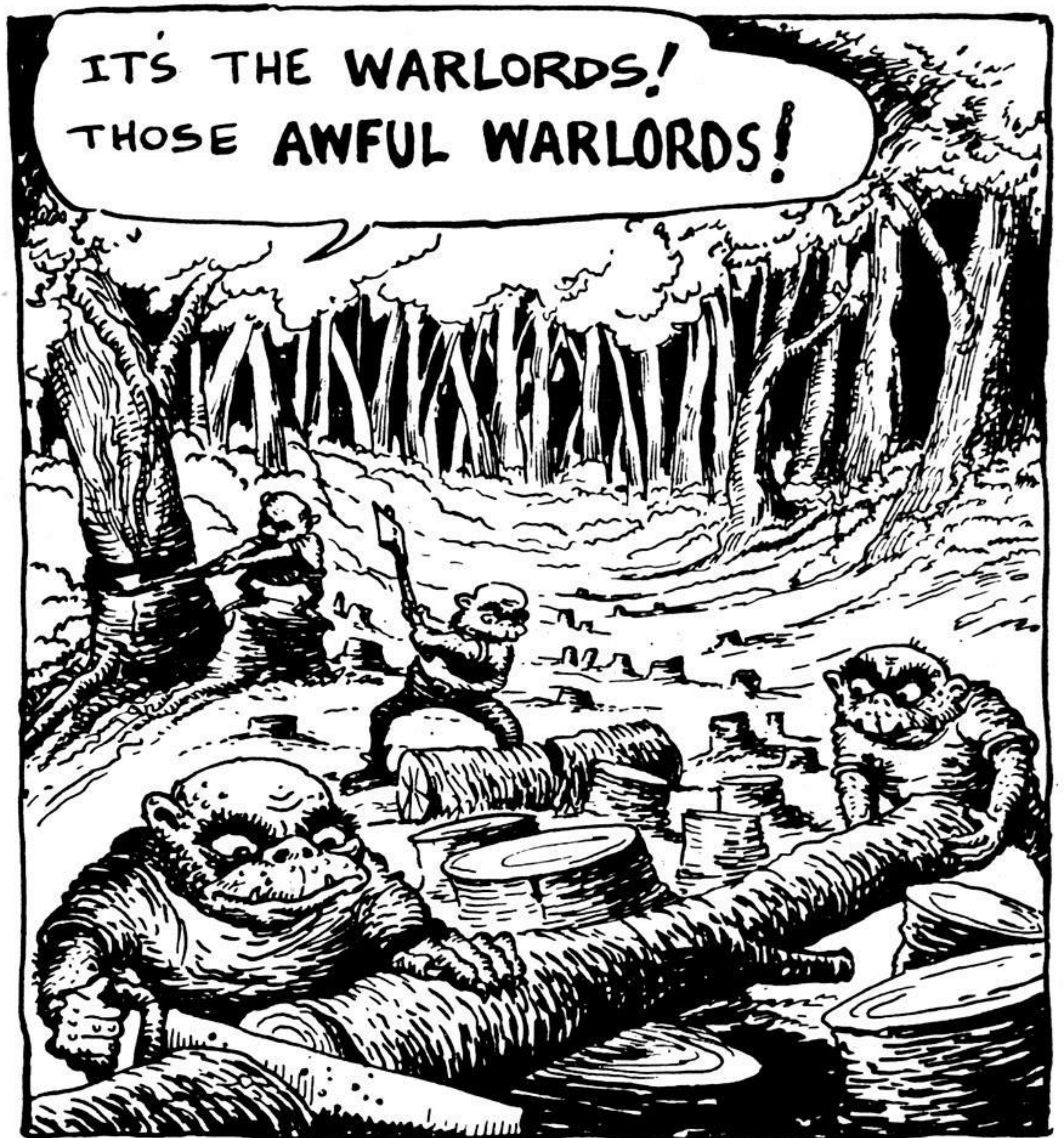
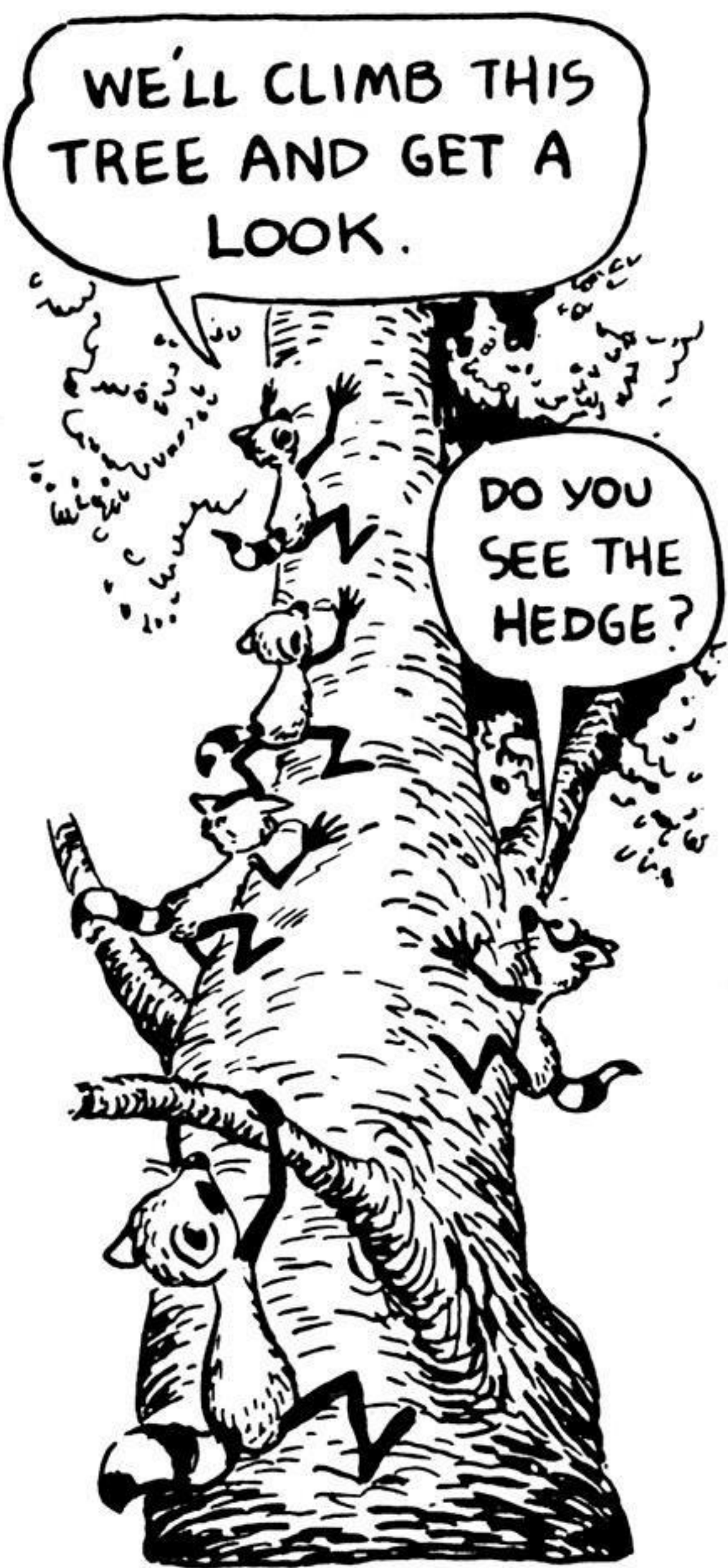
THERE'S A
HEDGE BEHIND
VIRGIL'S HOUSE.



HE POINTED THAT
WAY. MAYBE WE
SHOULD GO LOOK.



SO THE RACCOONS WALKED FOR SEVERAL MILES
LOOKING FOR THE MYSTERIOUS HEDGE.





THEY'RE CHOPPING DOWN THE TREES AND ROLLING THE LOGS FAR AWAY! DID YOU EVER SEE ANYTHING SO HORRIBLE?

NO!

LOOK! NOW THEY'RE LEAVING!

AND TAKING THE WOOD!

ARE THEY CUTTING DOWN THE HEDGE TOO?

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!

IT LOOKS UGLY!

IT LOOKS AWFUL!

I WANT TO GO HOME.

I HAVE AN IDEA!

I'LL FOLLOW THEM AND SEE WHERE THEY GO - AND WHY THEY'RE DOING THIS!

BUT VIRGIL, THE WARLORDS ARE TERRIBLE! REMEMBER HOW THEY CAPTURED OUR ANCESTORS!

THEY'RE DANGEROUS!

THEY'LL NEVER SEE ME. I'LL SWING FROM THE TREES.

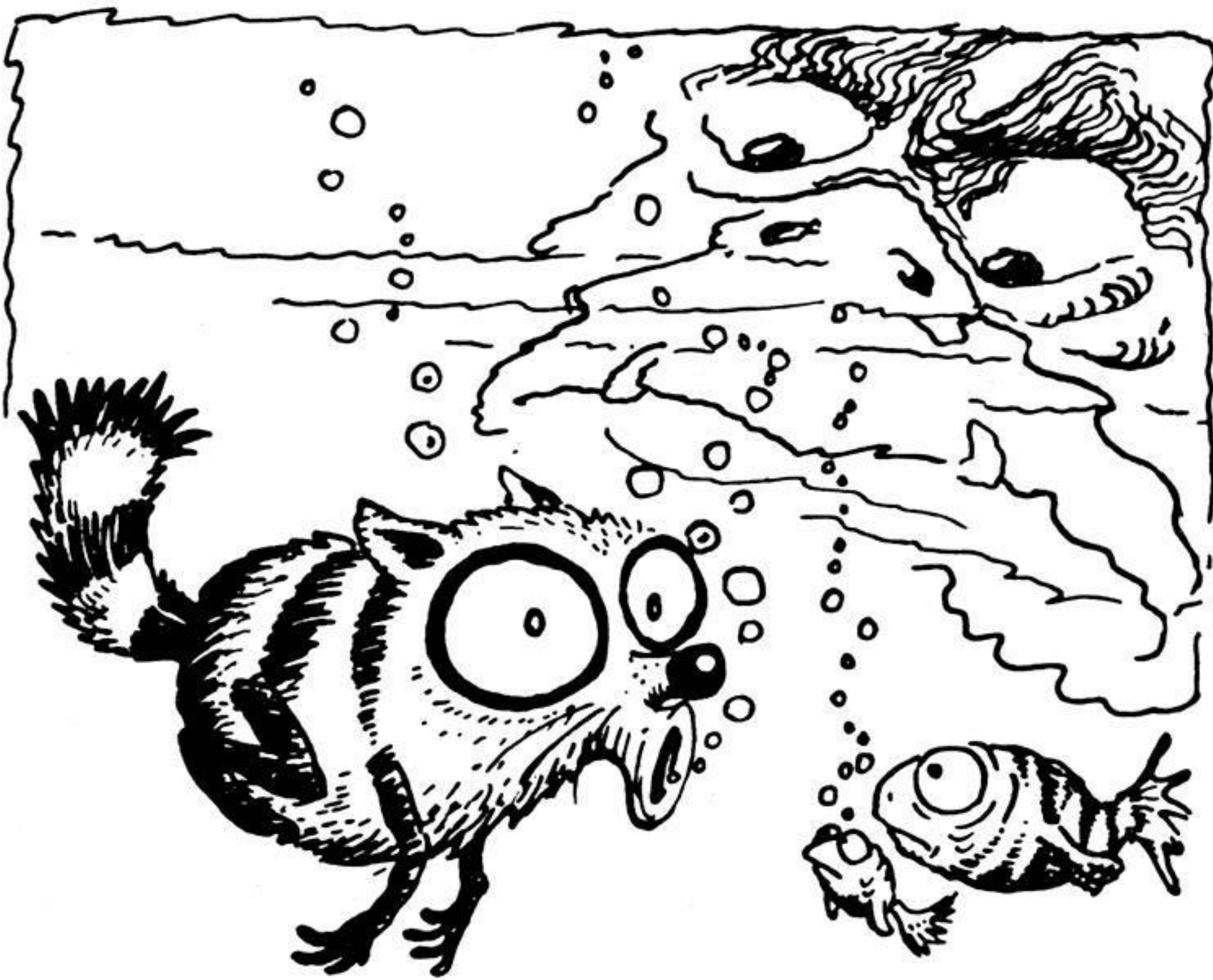
AND SO... THE BRAVE VIRGIL LEAVES THE OTHER RACCOONS AND FOLLOWS THE WARLORDS.

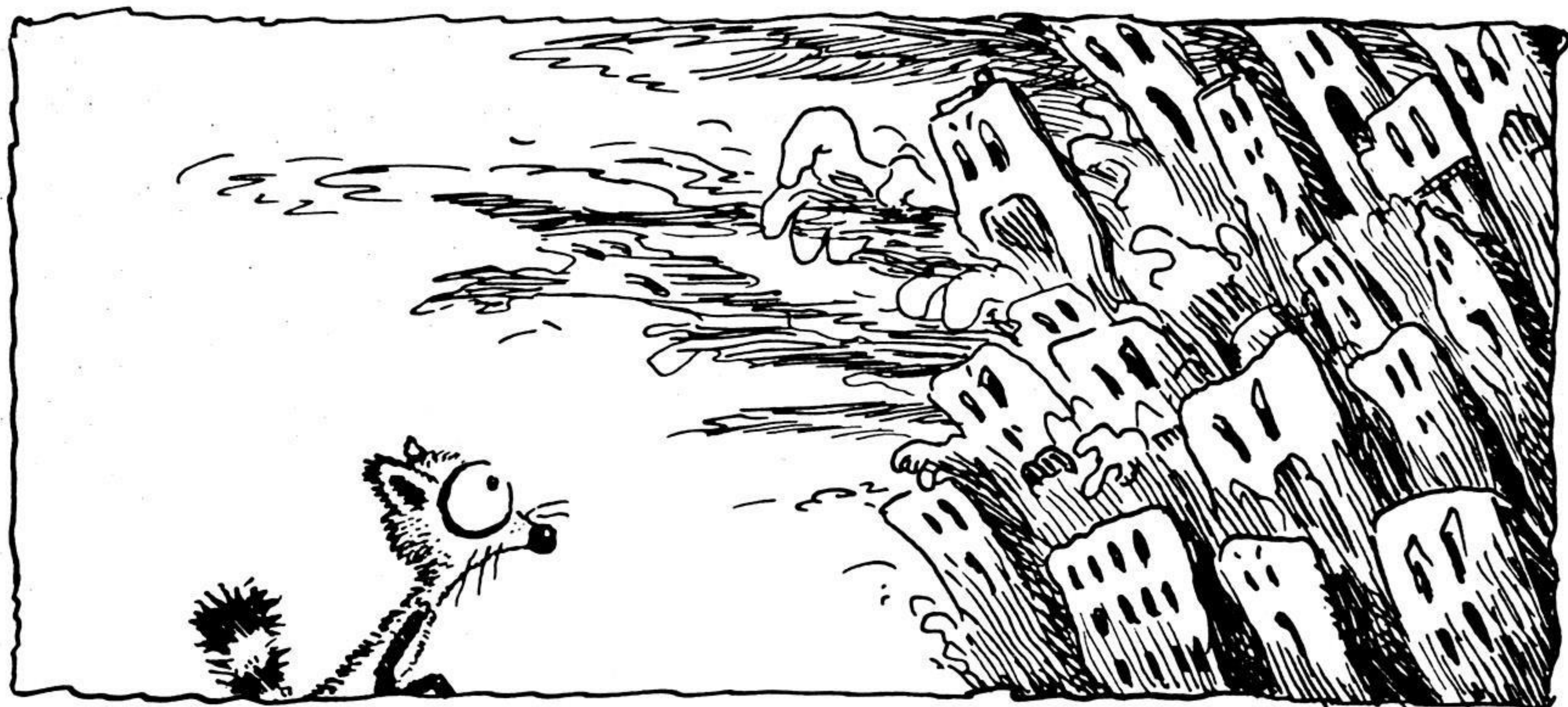
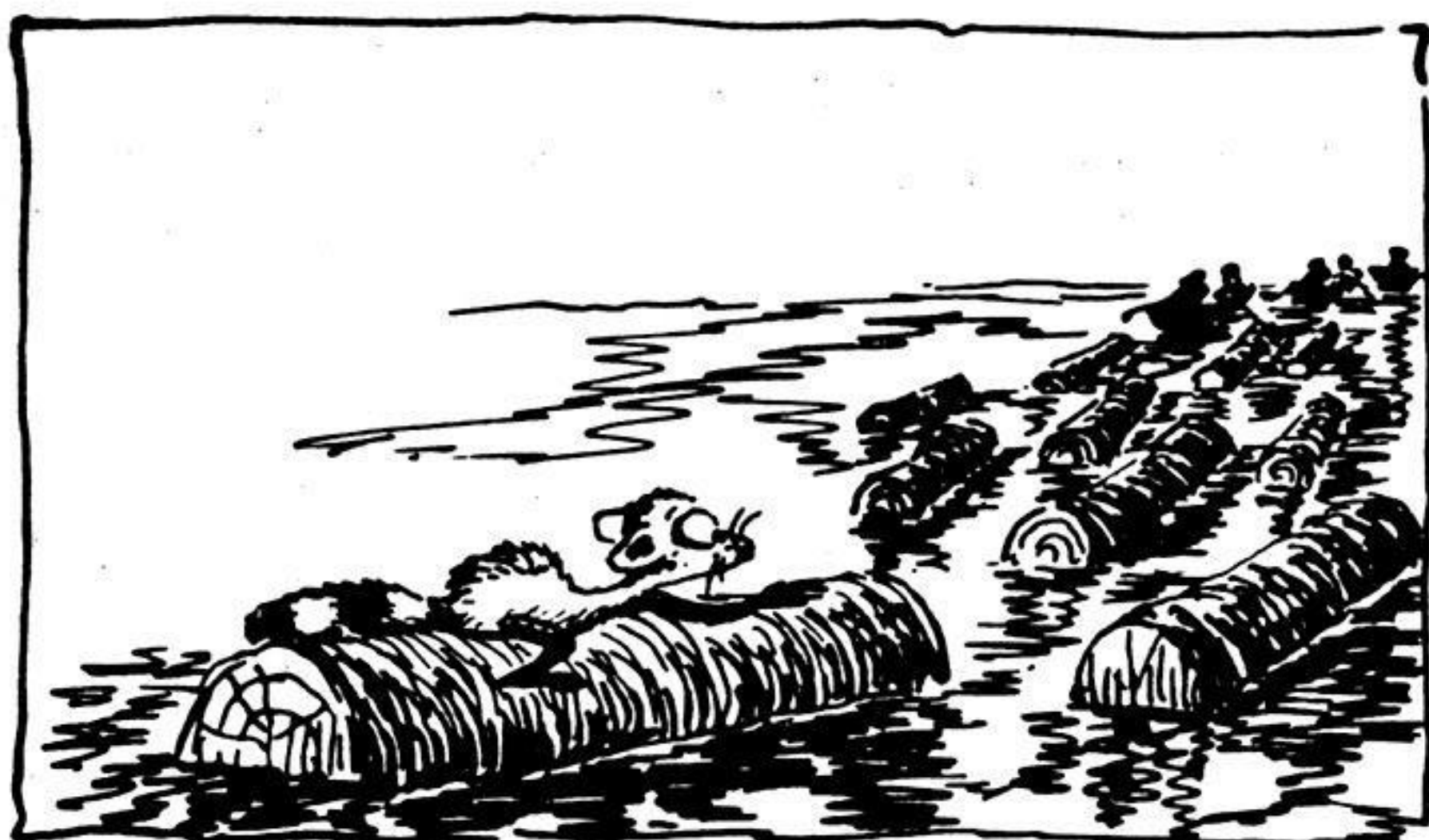
BE BACK IN A FEW DAYS.

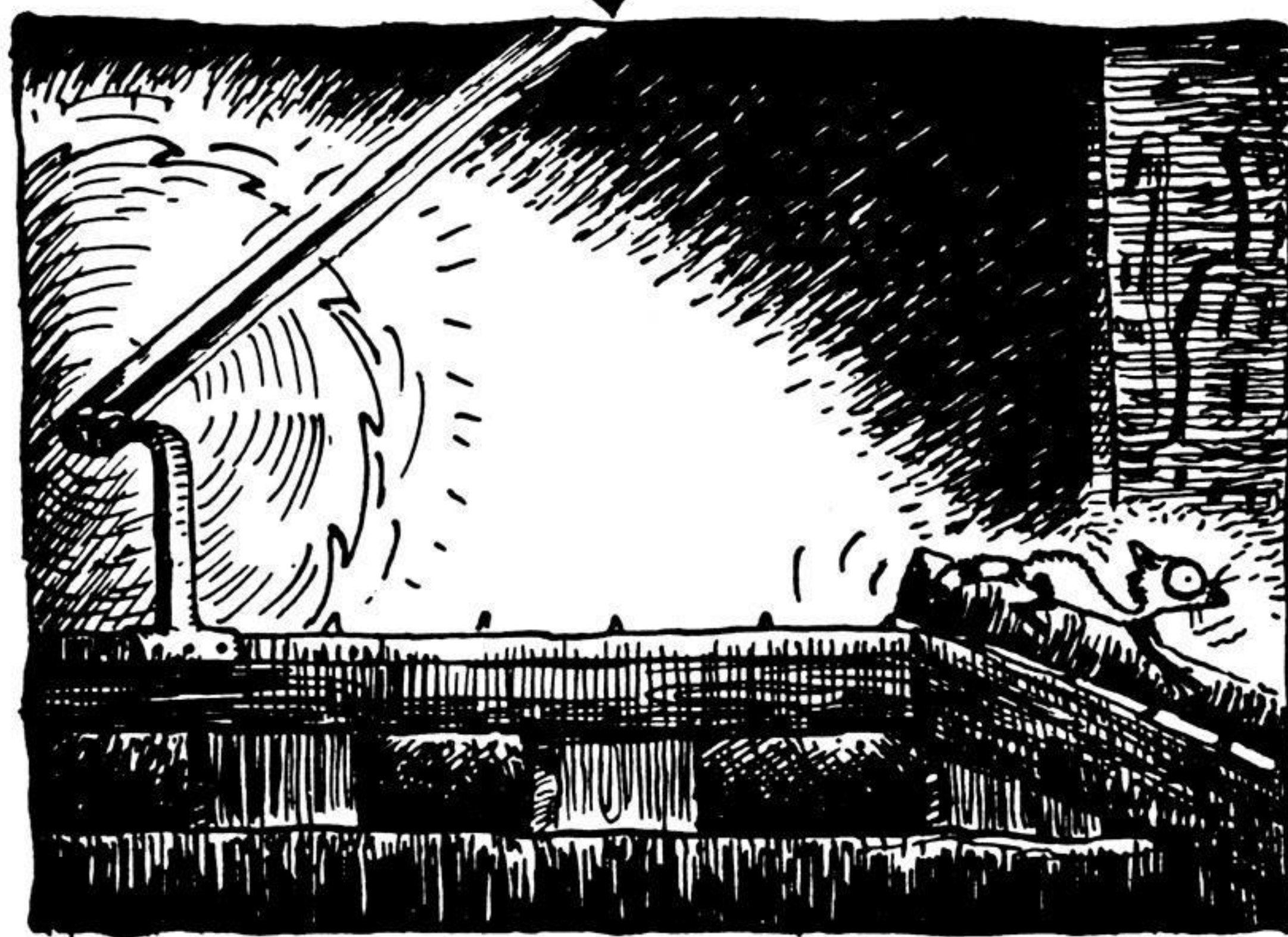
YOU'RE SO BRAVE VIRGIL.

BE CAREFUL.











THE OOZY LAYER? IS THAT
LIKE THE SLUDGE ON THE
POND?

WHY IS IT GONE?
WHERE IS IT GOING?

IS IT STICKY?

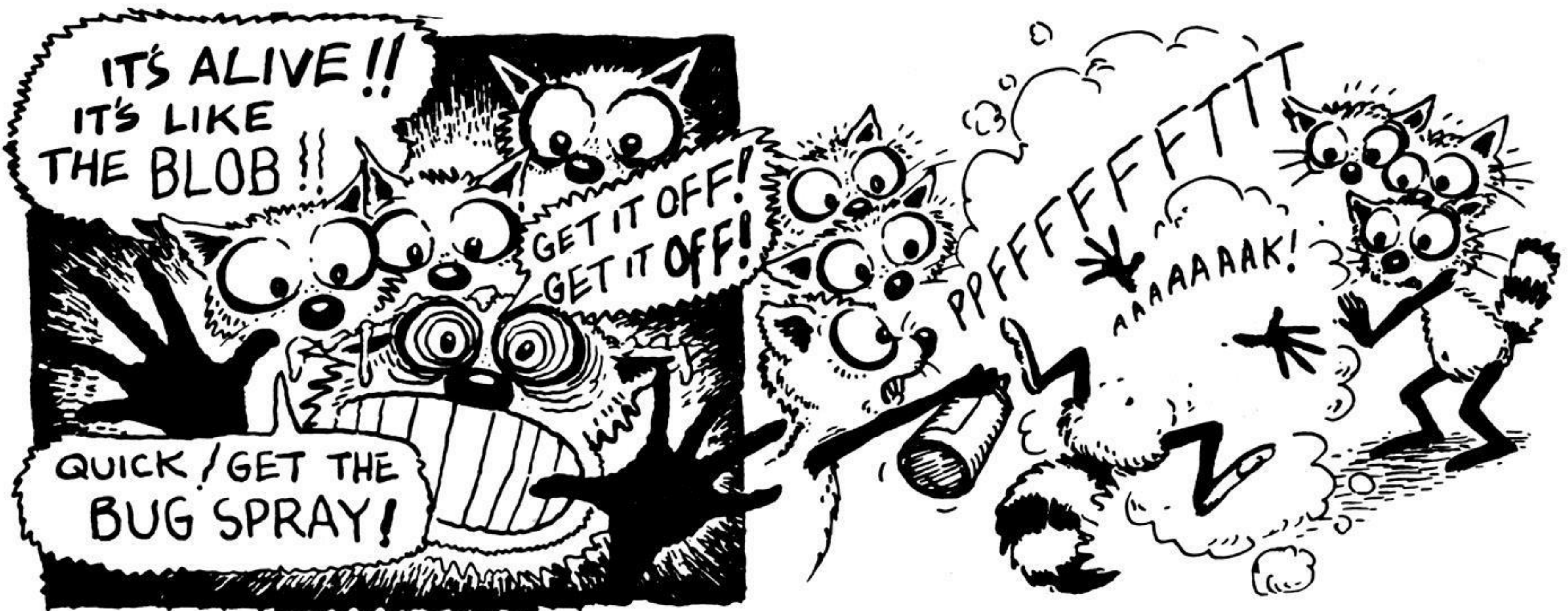
IS IT OOZY?



IS IT IN
THE SKY?

IS IT
FALLING?







I AM *RETURNED!*
♪♪



VIRGIL! VIRGIL!

WE'RE SO GLAD
TO SEE YOU!

YOU'RE HOME
SAFE!

YOU'VE BEEN
GONE FOR DAYS!

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

WHAT DID YOU
SEE?



WHAT DID
I SEE?

IT'S A HARD, CRUEL WORLD OUT THERE. ONE MUST QUICKLY BECOME TOUGHENED TO THE COLD LIFE IN THE CITY. VAST MONOLITHS HOVER OVER YOUR HEAD — SLABS OF GLASS AND CEMENT THREATEN TO SUFFOCATE YOU....



...SOULLESS BEINGS WITH NOT A DROP OF THE MILK OF RACCOON KINDNESS WANDER AIMLESSLY IN CIRCLES, DEVOID OF HOPE.... MEANING....



AN' I WENT TO THE ROCKSY!
AN' SAW THE FIREHOSE FIVE
MINUS NINE!

HERE'S A
PIECE OF
THE BASSOON!



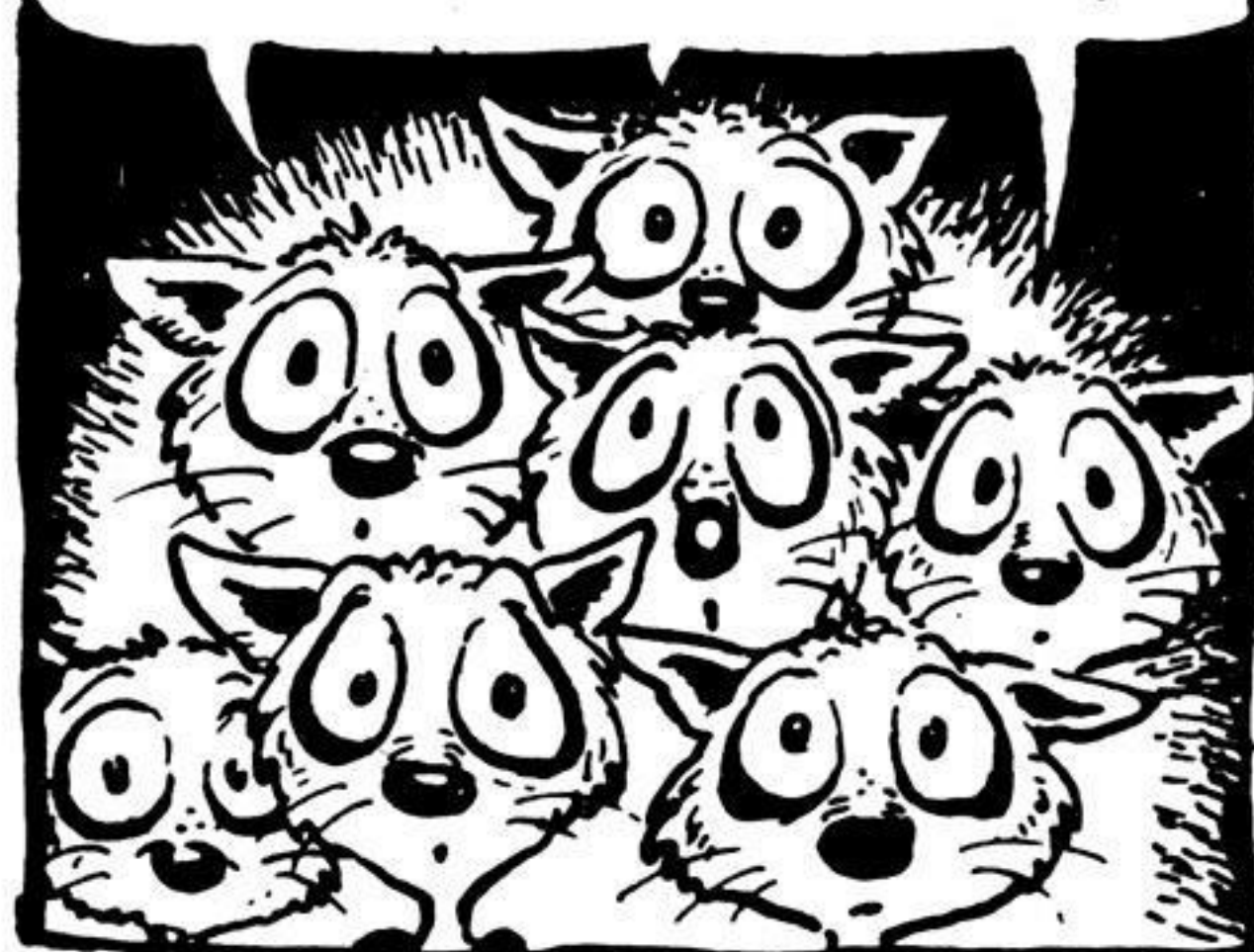
THEY SELL 'EM DOWN THE RIVER,
KID. THEY SELL 'EM DOWN THE
RIVER, JUST LIKE EVERYTHING
ELSE.



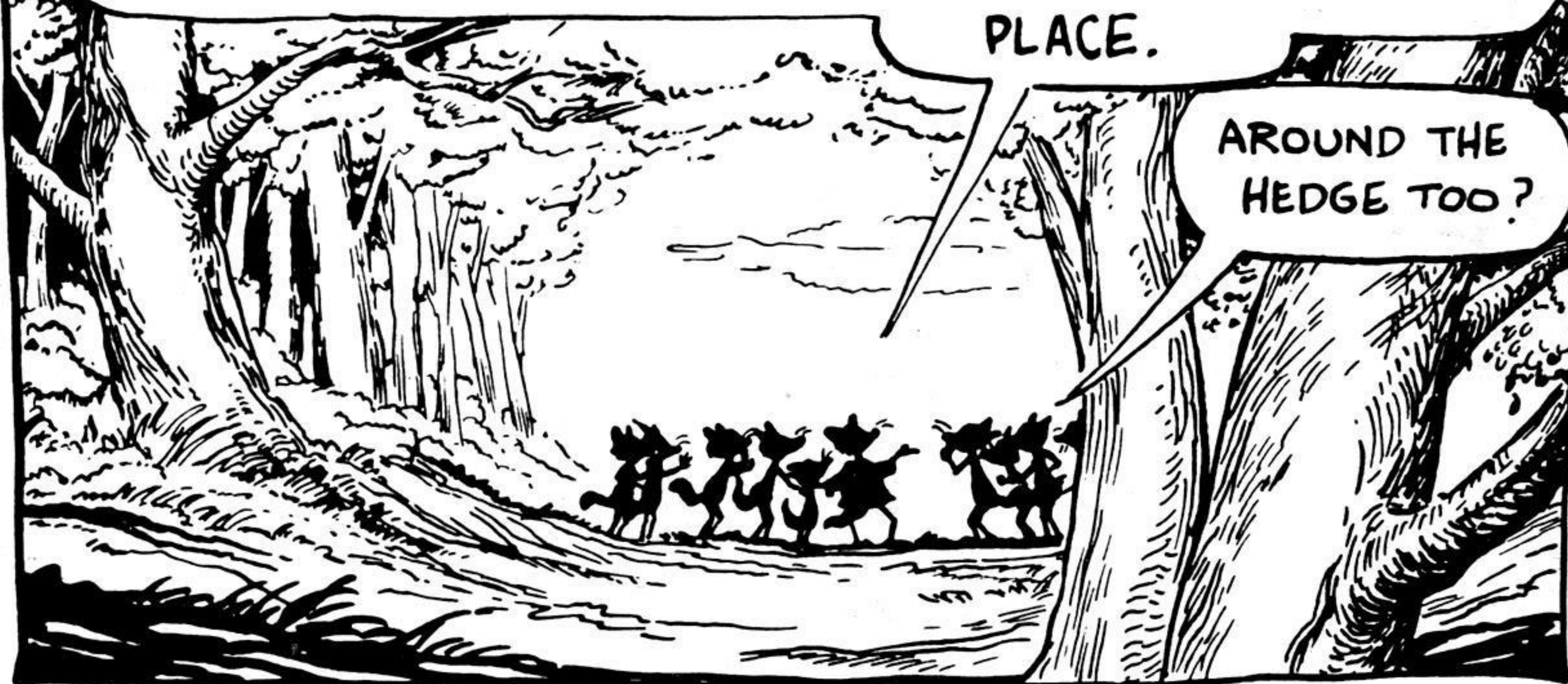
BUT UNCLE VIRGIL...
WHAT ABOUT THE TREES?
WHY DID THEY CHOP
DOWN THE TREES?



ARE THE WARLORDS
STILL GOING TO CHOP
DOWN THE TREES?



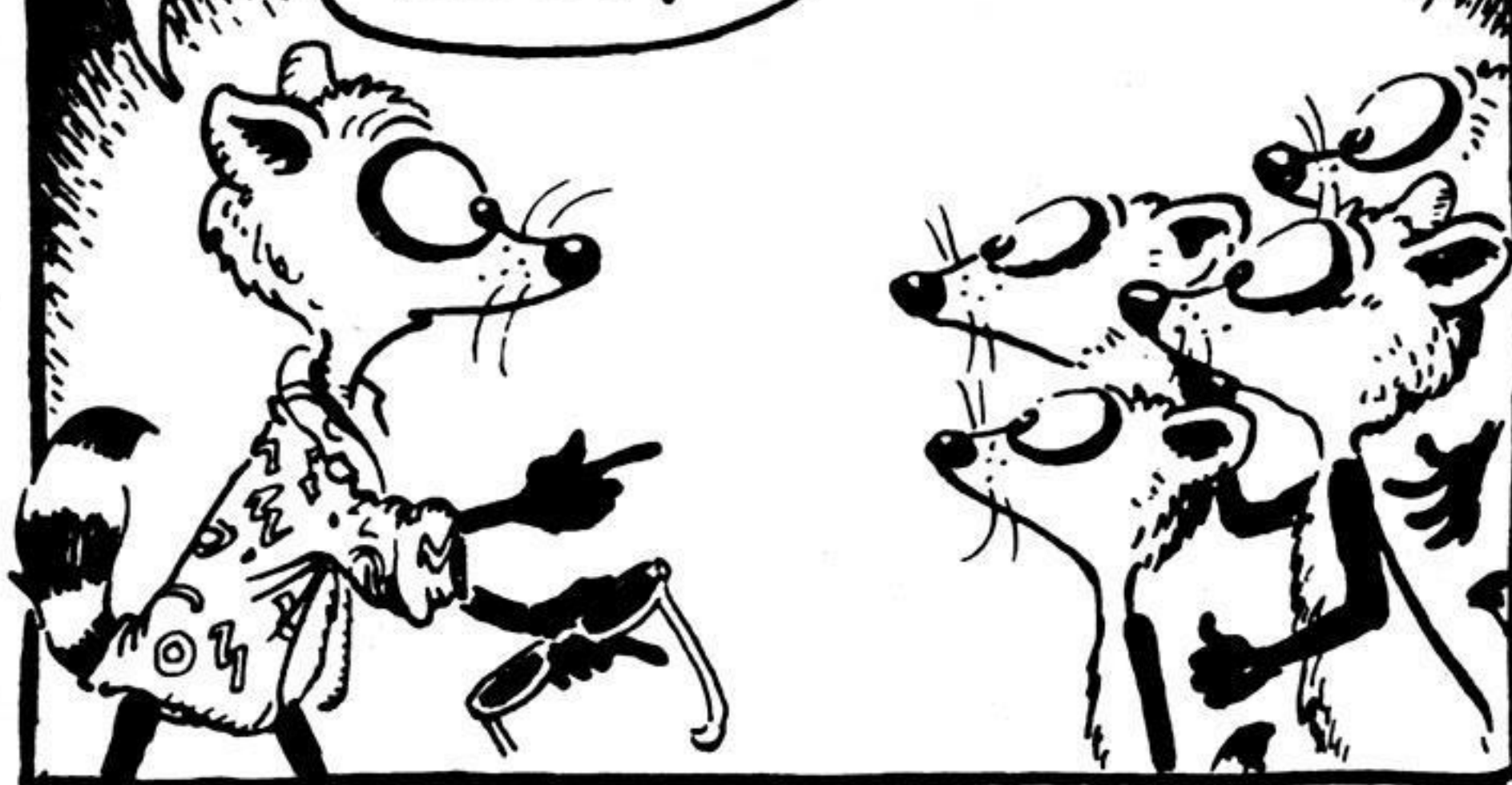
NAW, I REPORTED THEM TO THE LUMBERJACK GUILD
AND THEY THREW A PICKET LINE AROUND THE
PLACE.



AROUND THE
HEDGE TOO?

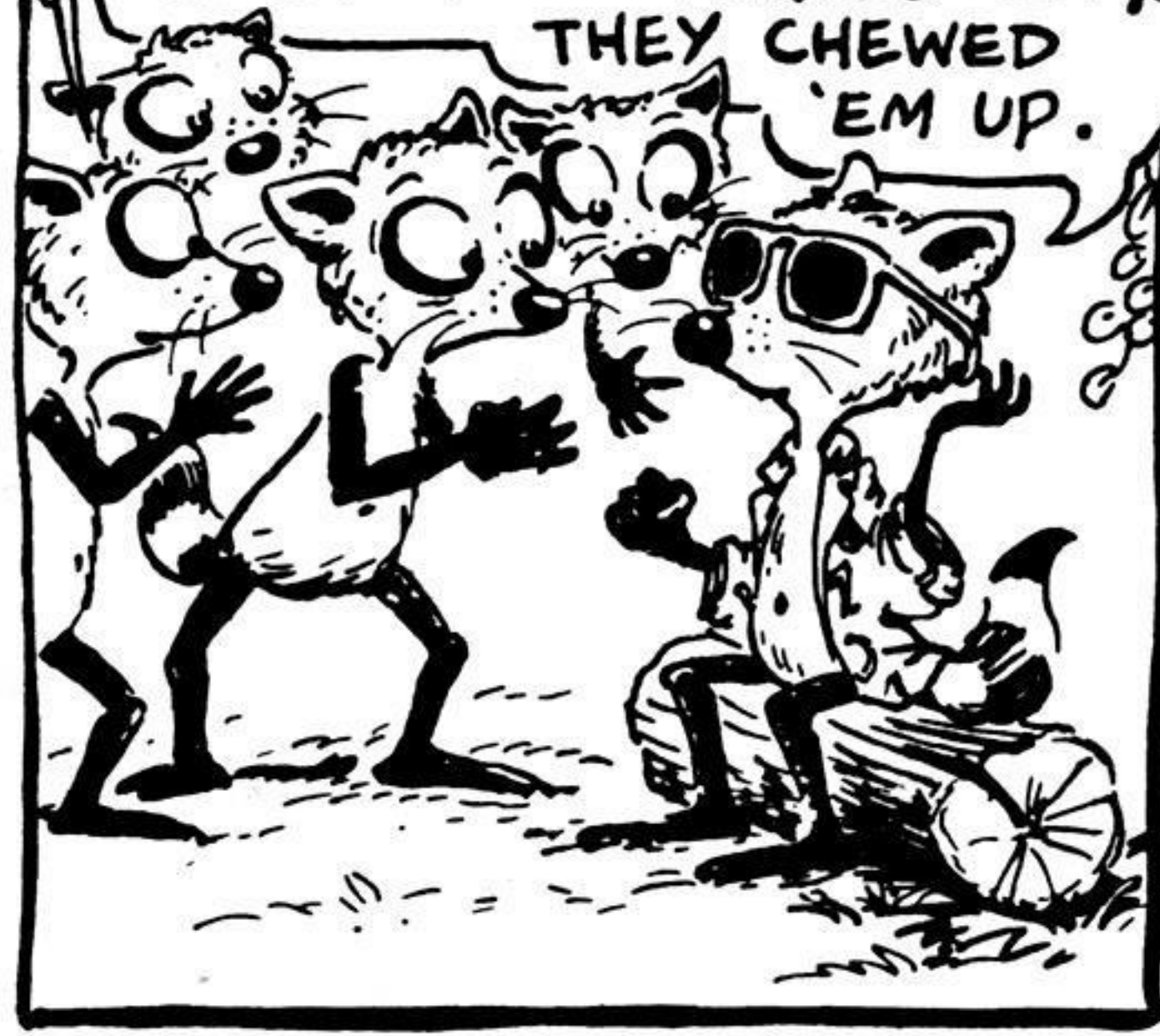
YOU KNOW, THEY MUST HAVE GOT THE HEDGE ALREADY. IT WAS ALL GONE.

WE'LL HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THOSE WARLORDS. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT THEY'LL TRY NEXT!

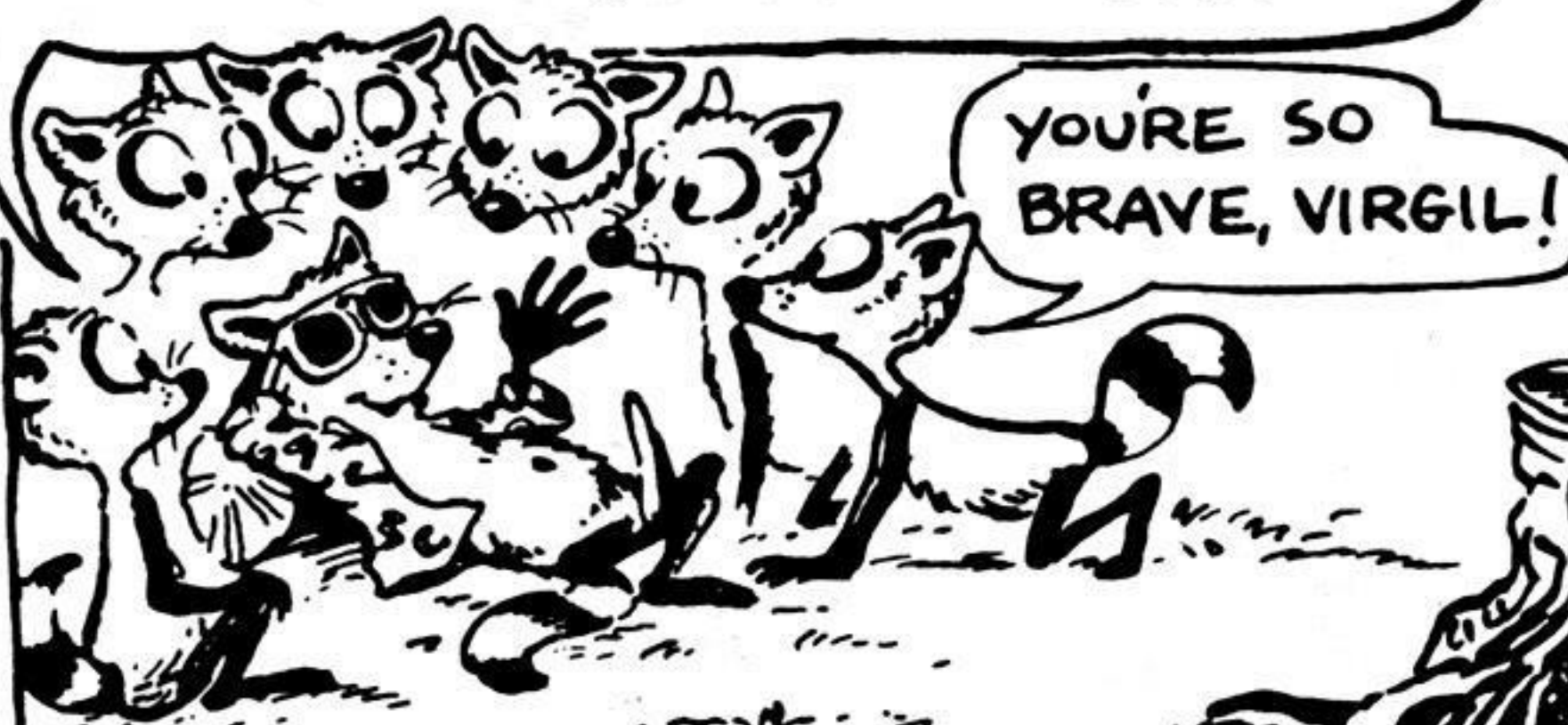


WHAT ELSE HAPPENED ON YOUR TRIP, VIRGIL!

I'LL TELL YOU, I FOLLOWED THOSE LOGS RIGHT INTO THE HEART OF THE NAKED CITY. THEY CHEWED 'EM UP.



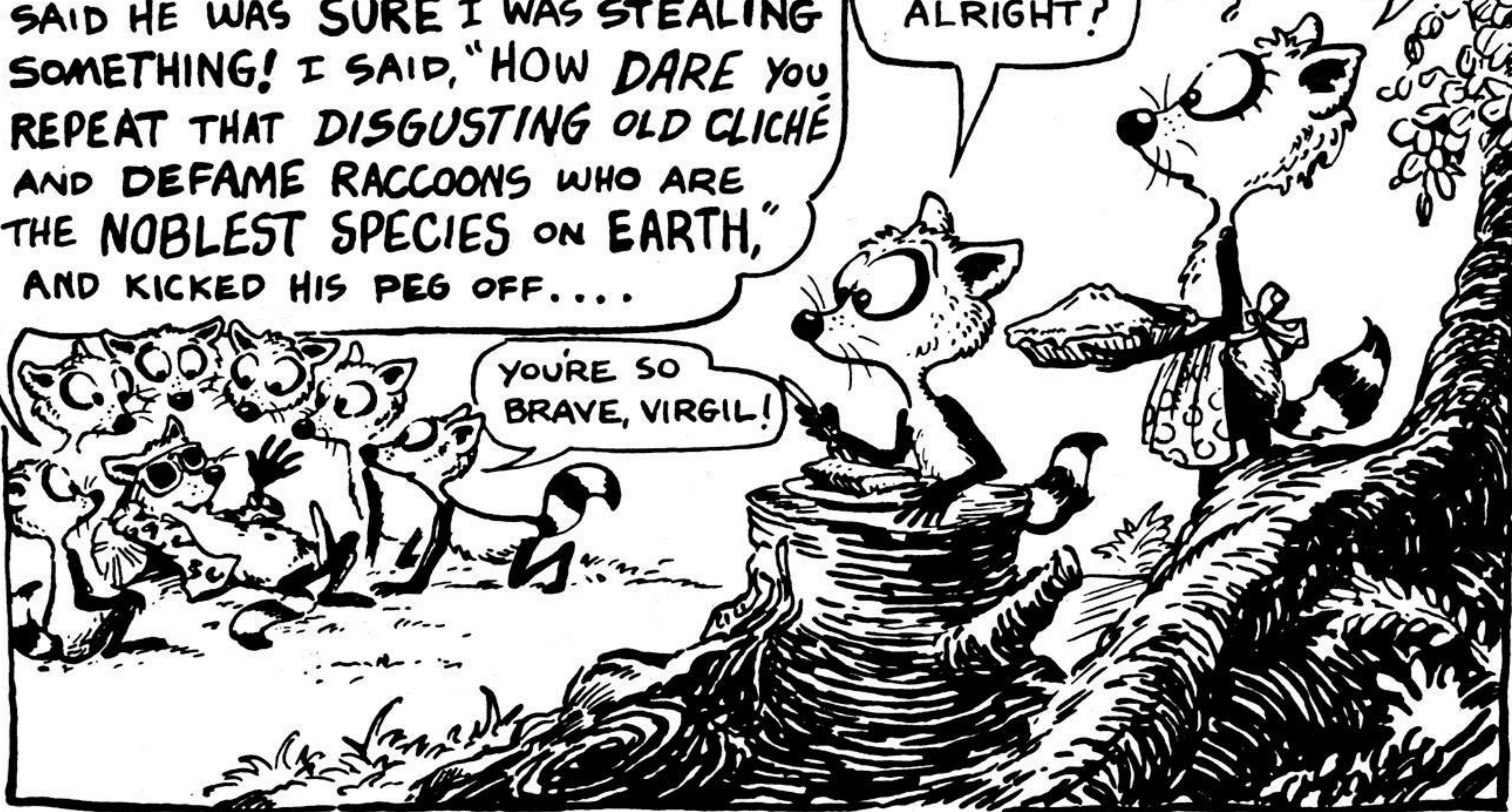
... THEN, I WAS ATTACKED BY A PEG-LEGGED MIME IN THE PARK WHO THOUGHT I WAS STEALING HIS AUDIENCE. I TOLD HIM I WAS JUST A RACCOON, BUT THEN HE SAID HE WAS SURE I WAS STEALING SOMETHING! I SAID, "HOW DARE YOU REPEAT THAT DISGUSTING OLD CLICHÉ AND DEFAME RACCOONS WHO ARE THE NOBLEST SPECIES ON EARTH," AND KICKED HIS PEG OFF....



YOU'RE SO BRAVE, VIRGIL!

WILL UNCLE VIRGIL BE ALRIGHT?

IT TAKES TIME TO RECOVER FROM BRAVERY.



THE END

UNCLE ERF

THE HOUSE IS A MESS.
IT'S GOTTA BE
CLEANED.

NO, IT'S NOT.
I CLEANED IT
YESTERDAY.

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NO YOU
DIDN'T.

I DID TOO, ERF.
I TOOK OUT THE
GARBAGE AND WASHED
ALL THE DISHES.

IT'S STILL A MESS!
THERE'S STUFF ALL
OVER THE PLACE!

WELL, I DID
CLEAN IT.

IT'S NOT
CLEAN!
AND IT
WAS YOUR
TURN
THIS
WEEK!

BUT I WASHED
ALL THE
DISHES!
AND YOU
SHOULD
HAVE SEEN
THAT PILE!

IF YOU THINK IT'S
CLEAN, SHOW IT TO
ME, PANSY!
LET'S GO
LOOK AT
IT!

OKAY!

SEE?



THE END

THE PHILOSOPHY OF RACCOONS

RACCOONS ARE VERY OPTIMISTIC. THEY ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE AND TEACH THE YOUNG ONES THIS SAME HOPEFUL OUTLOOK.



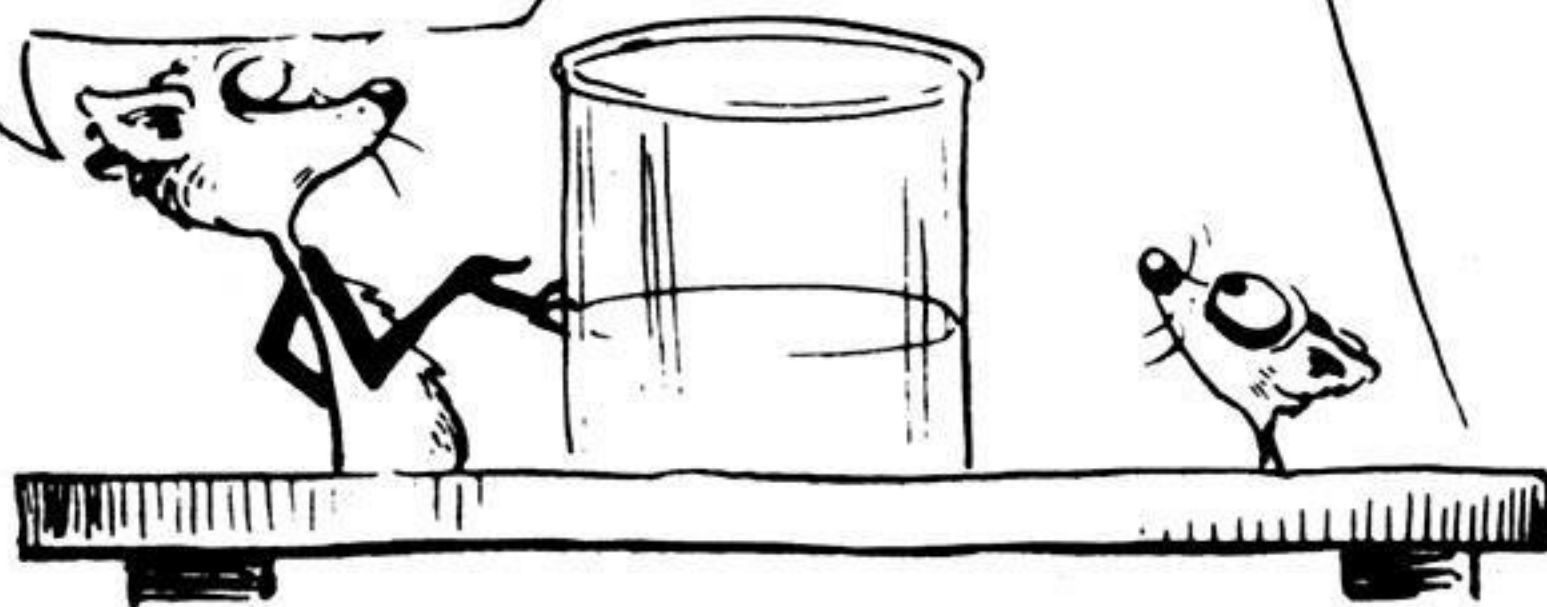
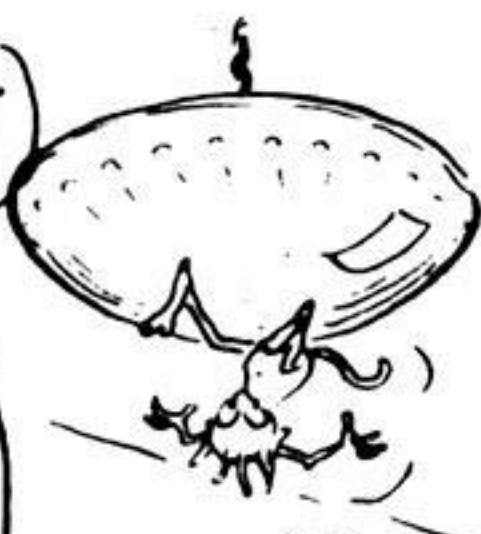
NOW PAY ATTENTION, EZRY, ARE YOU PAYING ATTENTION?

THIS GLASS OF WATER REPRESENTS YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIFE. I WANT YOU TO TELL ME IF IT IS HALF EMPTY OR HALF FULL.

DO YOU SEE IT AS HALF EMPTY? DO YOU FEEL THAT HALF OF IT IS GONE?



OR, DO YOU SEE IT AS HALF FULL... THAT THERE IS STILL MUCH LEFT.. IN A SENSE THAT THERE IS STILL SOMETHING TO WORK WITH...



... APPRECIATIVE OF THAT WHICH STILL REMAINS...

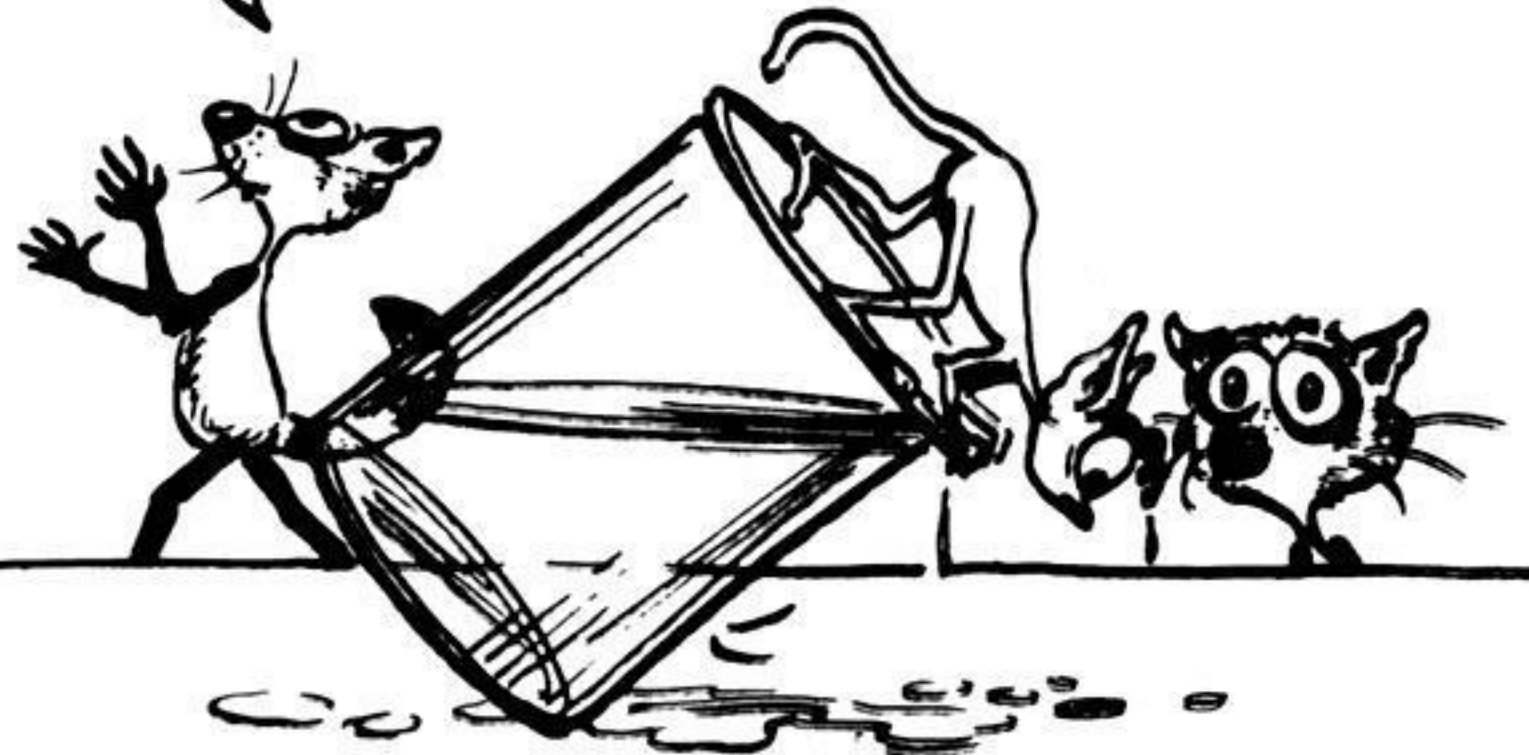


IT'S FULL!

FULL! INTERESTING.
A LITTLE OVER-OPTIMISTIC,
BUT... YOUR ATTITUDE
IS GOOD.



ON THE OTHER HAND, IT
IS IMPORTANT TO FACE
REALITIES -- RECOGNIZE THE
WORTH AND THEN THE
POTENTIAL...



NOW CAN YOU SEE THAT
IT IS REALLY HALF FULL
AND STILL FEEL HOPEFUL?

WELL, IT'S REALLY
EMPTY, NOW...



EZRY, EZRY, WE MUST LEARN
NOT TO BE DISCOURAGED SO
QUICKLY. LEARN TO EVALUATE A
SITUATION. OBSERVE IT CLOSELY
AND THEN STICK TO YOUR OPINIONS--
NOW, PAY ATTENTION.

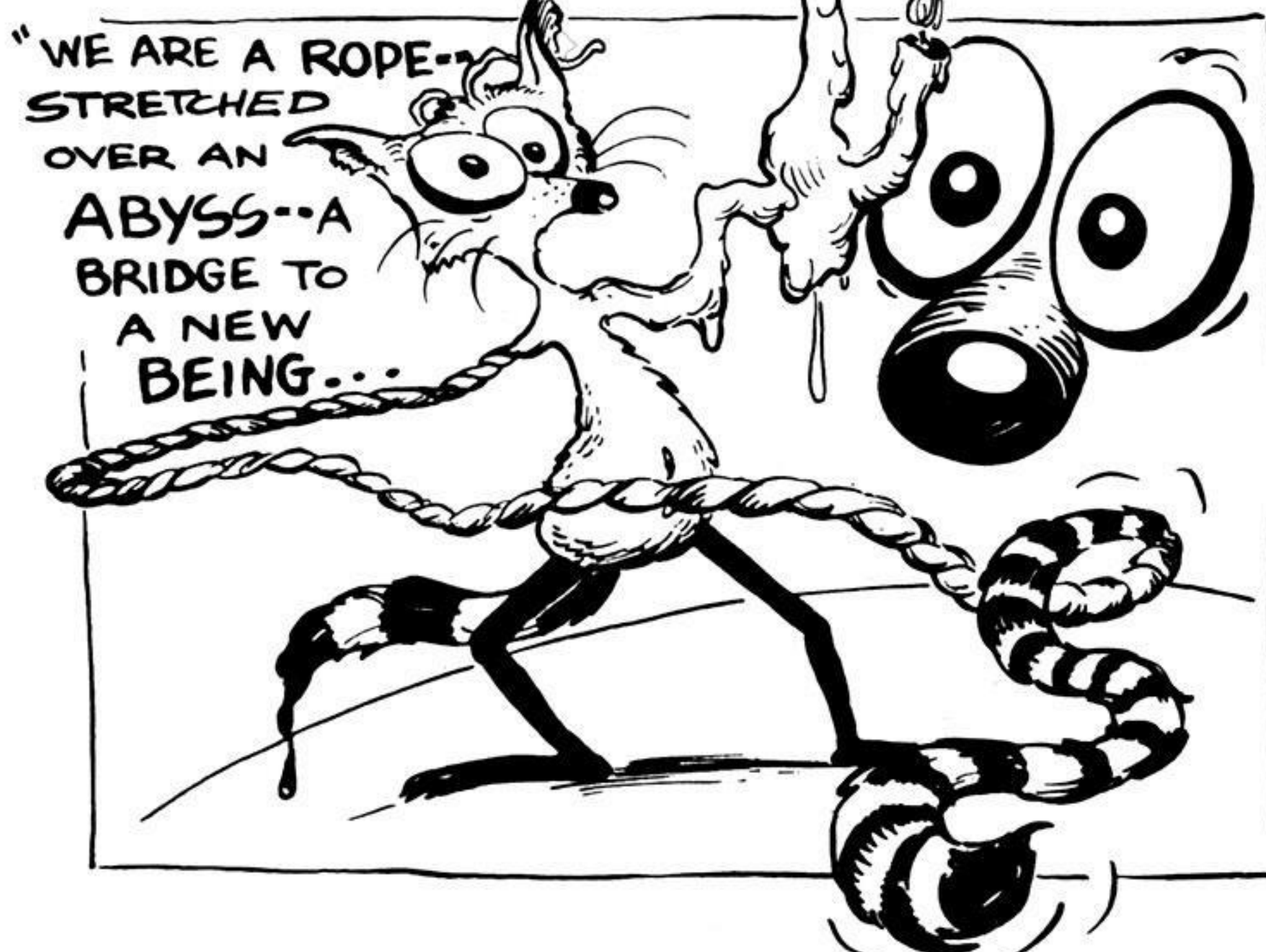
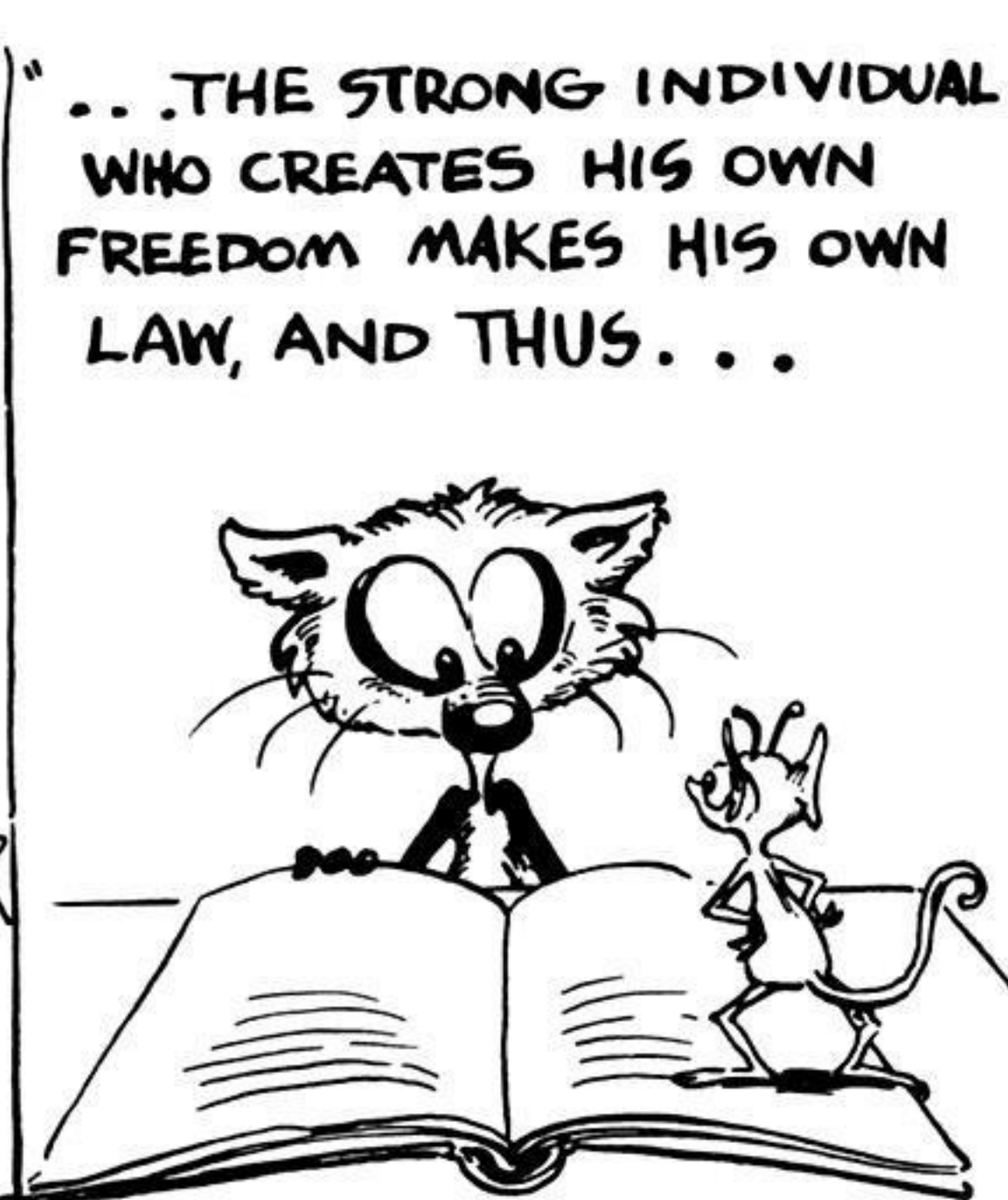


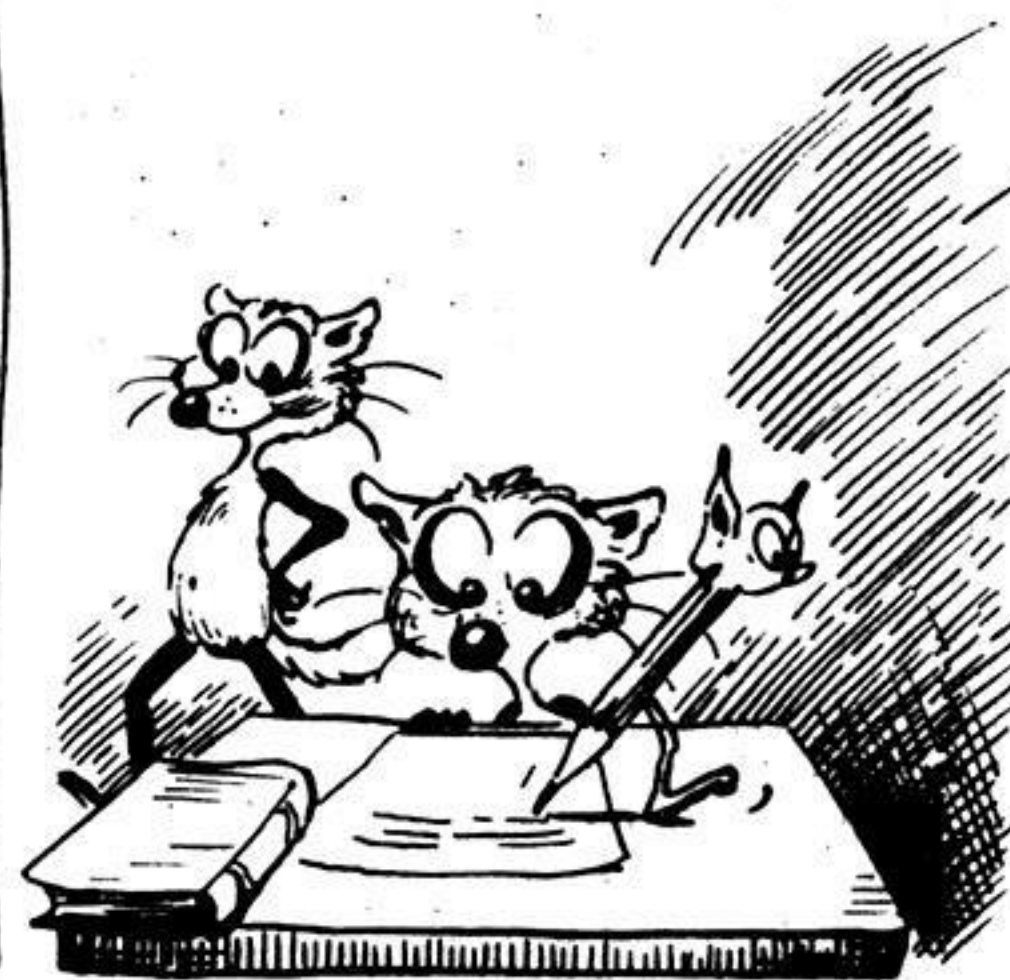
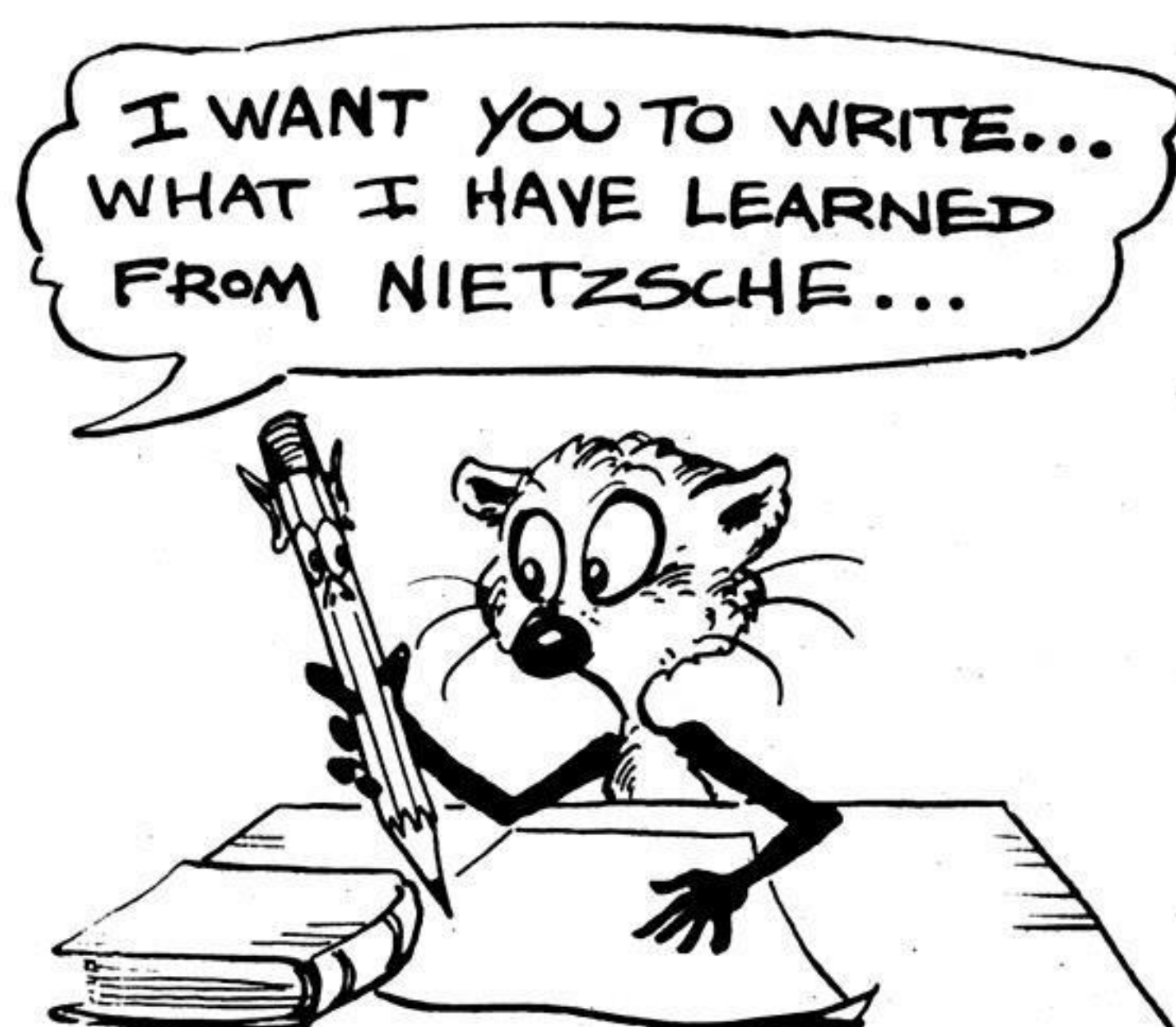
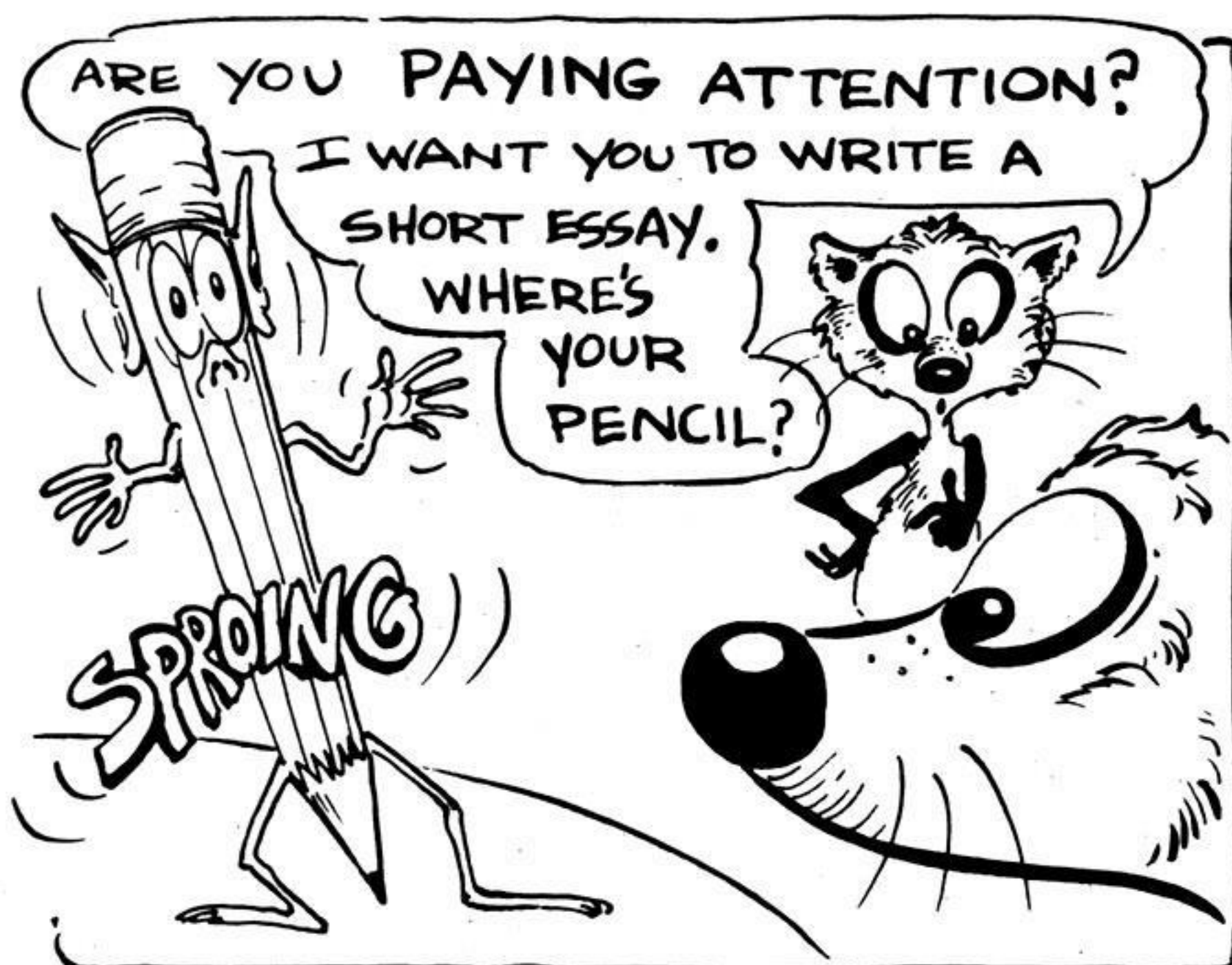
OPEN YOUR BOOK.
TODAY, WE WILL STUDY
NIETZSCHE.



NIETZSCHE TELLS US THAT SALVATION
LIES IN THE ARISTOCRATIC PRINCIPLE--
IN COURAGE, STRENGTH AND
DARING...







UNCLE ERF PART 2

YOU'RE THE MOST SELFISH
RACCOON I'VE EVER KNOWN!
YOU WANT EVERYTHING YOUR
WAY ALL THE TIME!

IT'S YOUR FAULT, PANSY!
YOU START ALL THE
TROUBLE!!

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I CAN'T EVER PLEASE
YOU AT ALL!
NOTHING'S EVER
RIGHT IS IT?

THAT'S ALL
WRONG!!
YOU'RE CRAZY!!

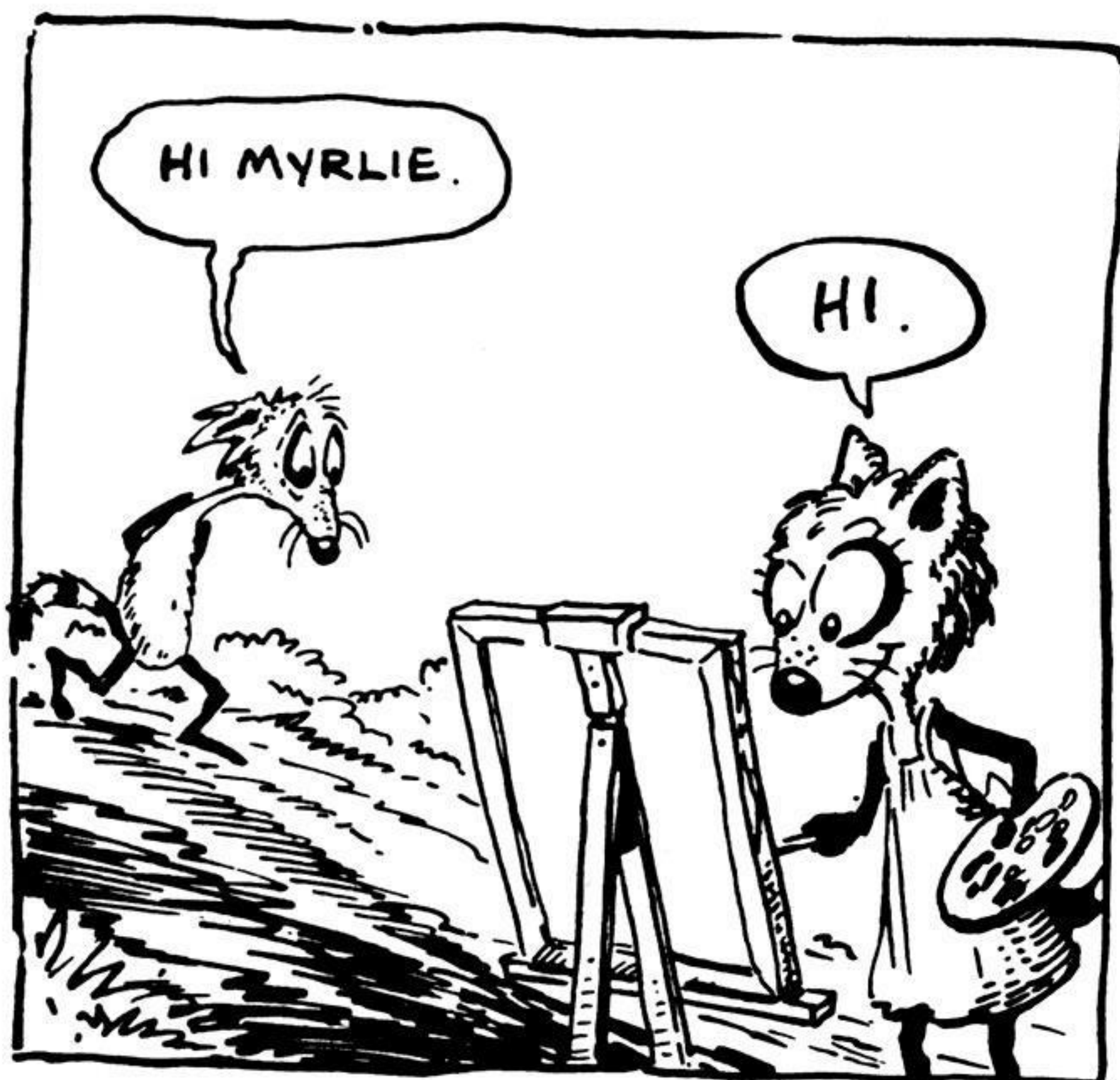
SEE? I'M WRONG AGAIN! I'M
ALWAYS WRONG, AREN'T I ERF?
... AND YOU'RE PERFECT! YOU'RE
ALWAYS PERFECT! YOU SHOULD BE IN
A MUSEUM OF RARE ODDITIES!

A PERFECT
SPECIMEN
WHO'S
ALWAYS
RIGHT!

THAT DOES IT!
GET OUT, PANSY!
I CAN'T LIVE WITH
YOU! YOU GO LIVE
IN A MUSEUM
FOR MANIACS!

OKAY! I'LL GET OUT! I'LL BE HAPPY TO GET OUT!
YOU CAN STAY HERE AND WALLOW IN
YOUR PERFECTION!

THAT'S A LAUGH! I'LL WALLOW IN
PEACE AND QUIET WITH YOU GONE!



HI MYRLIE.

HI.

YOU LOOK SAD. WHAT'S THE MATTER?

OH, ERF AND I HAD ANOTHER FIGHT.

THAT'S TOO BAD...

IT WAS MORE THAN JUST A FIGHT THIS TIME... I THINK WE'RE THROUGH.

YES, BUT THIS TIME IT'S DIFFERENT. ... HE THREW ME OUT.

OH, AUNT PANSY. YOU AND ERF ALWAYS FIGHT. THAT'S JUST THE WAY YOU ARE.

HE THREW YOU OUT?

HE THREW ME OUT.... IN THE COLD..
...TO WANDER THE STREETS..
TO STARVE.... HE DOESN'T CARE....

NOW, NOW, AUNT PANSY.
YOU'LL PATCH IT UP.
YOU ALWAYS DO.

NOT THIS TIME! HE THREW
ME OUT!..OF MY OWN HOME!!
HE'S A BEAST!! BY GOD, I
WANT A DIVORCE!!!!

A
DIVORCE?!

HE CAN'T TREAT ME
THIS WAY! I'LL SHOW
HIM! HE'LL HAVE TO
STRUGGLE
ALONG
WITHOUT
ME!!!

WAIT 'TIL HE GETS THE DIVORCE
PAPERS! HE WON'T EVEN BE
EXPECTING IT, AND HE'LL GET
THEM IN THE MAIL ONE
DAY!
THAT'LL
SHOCK
HIM!!

BUT AUNT PANSY, WHAT ABOUT
LITTLE FURLEY.

YES... POOR LITTLE FURLEY....
.... A BROKEN HOME....

WHY DON'T WE HAVE SOME COOKIES... AUNT PANSY...
... AND SOME TEA.. YOU'LL FEEL BETTER..



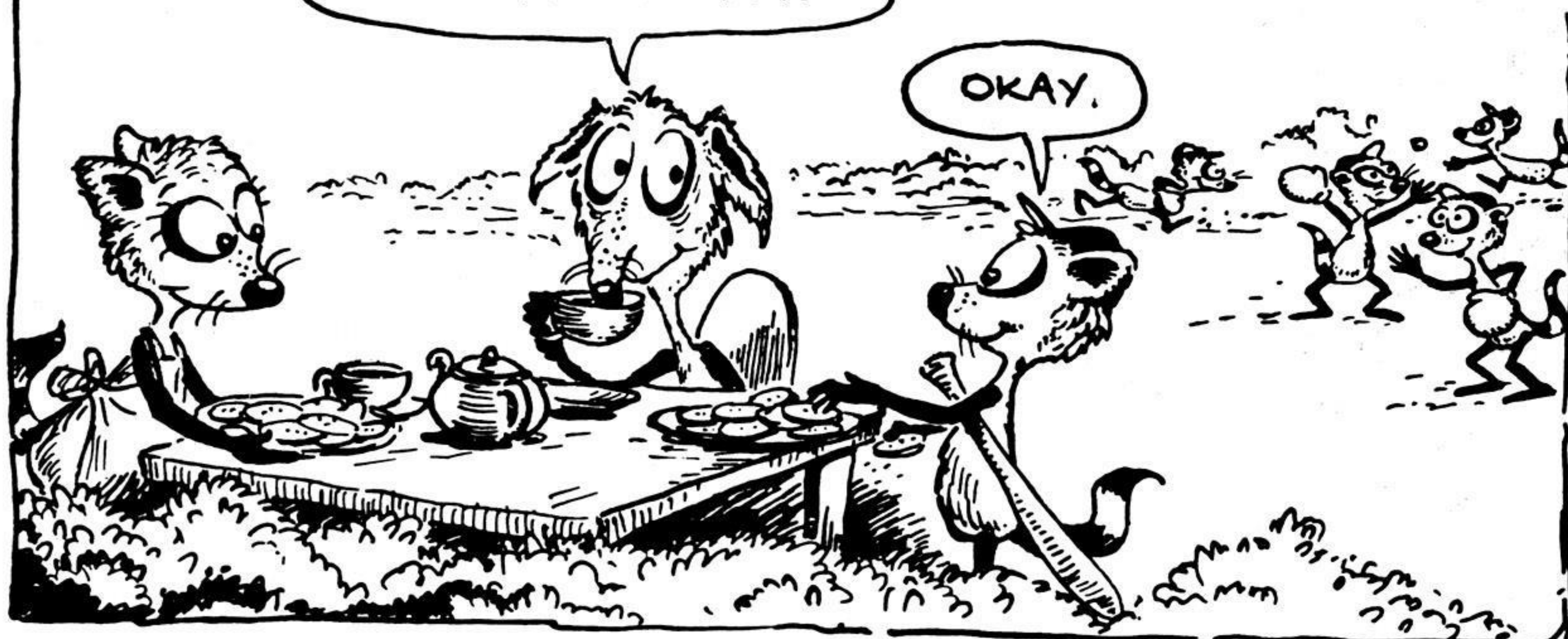
COME AND GET SOME
COOKIES, EZRY !



CAN FURLEY COME OUT AND
PLAY? WE NEED A SHORTSTOP.



NOT NOW, EZRY. WE'RE HAVING TEA...
MAYBE LATER.



OKAY.

The Adventures of RACCKETTY ANN AND BLA BLA

YOU KNOW, BLA BLA, IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY YESTERDAY WHEN WE MET AND YOU RESCUED ME FROM THAT PACK OF WILD WOLVES IN THE WILDERNESS OF ALASKA WHERE I WAS DOING RESEARCH ON ENDANGERED SPECIES... OF COURSE, THEY WERE SOME OF YOUR UNRULY RELATIVES...



LUCKY FOR ME, YOUR MOTHER WAS A GERMAN SHEPHERD WHO TAUGHT YOU MANNERS! WE'VE BEEN PRACTICALLY INSEPARABLE EVER SINCE THEN, AND I CAN'T IMAGINE MAKING MY TRAVELS ALL OVER THE WORLD WITHOUT YOU. ARE YOU ALL SET TO GO BACK TO

ARGENTINA WITH ME, BLA BLA?

I HAVE ONLY TWO MORE YEARS OF MEDICAL SCHOOL DOWN THERE. WON'T EVERYONE BE SURPRISED WHEN I COME BACK A DOCTOR?

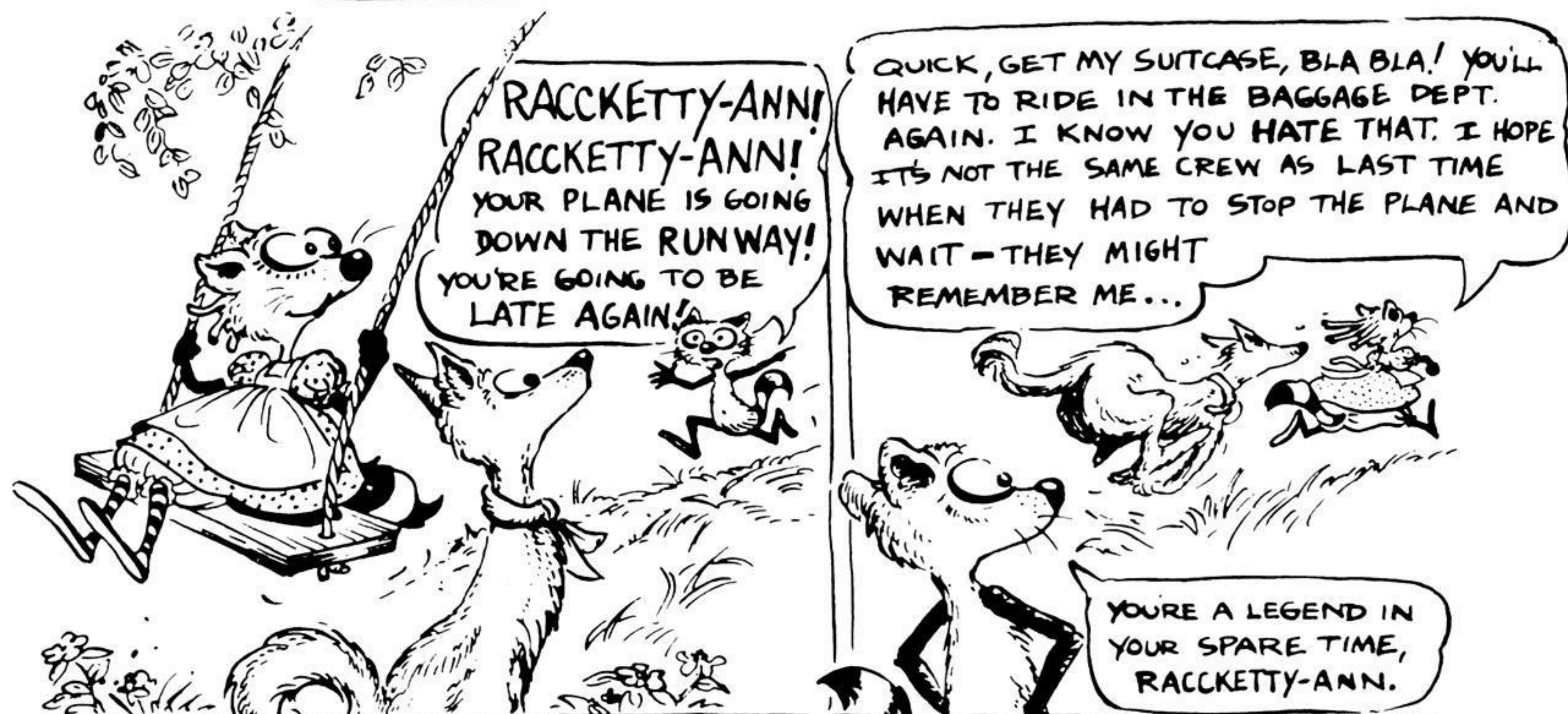
I KNOW YOU WON'T TELL ANYONE, BLA BLA.



I TRY TO KEEP A LOW PROFILE BUT RACCOONS ARE SUCH GOSSIPS! AND THEY'RE SO PASSIVE! NOW, SKUNKS HAVE SPUNK! ALL MY BEST FRIENDS THESE DAYS ARE SKUNKS! THEY DON'T MIND BEING OFFENSIVE!

YOU KNOW, THAT REMINDS ME OF WHAT I WAS TELLING THE HAVASUPAI BURROS WHILE WE WERE CLIMBING DOWN THE GRAND CANYON TOGETHER... I SAID, "DON'T LET THEM LEAD YOU AROUND! YOU MUST FIGHT FOR YOUR LAND."







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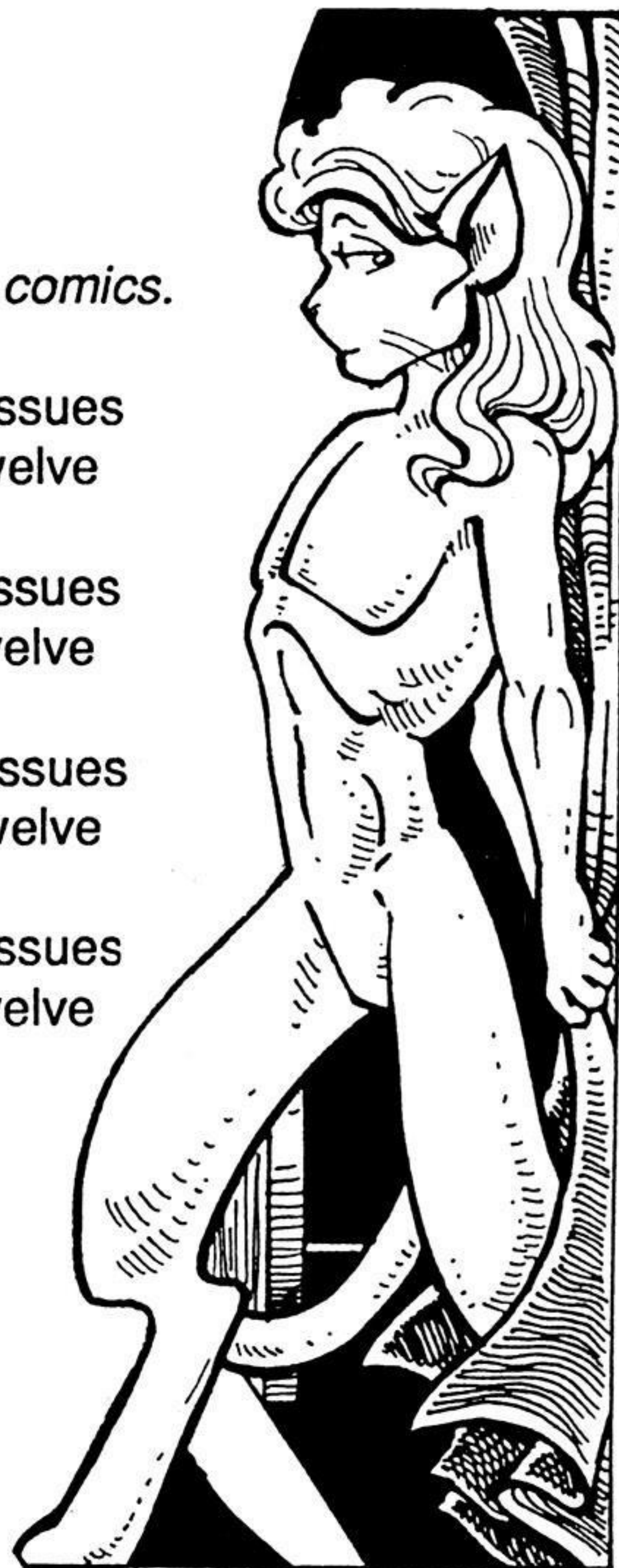
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- ① If your shop doesn't carry it, politely ask if they could get it...



Not THIS way!!

- ② If they don't know how to backorder from the company, show them how...

Here's their shipping address.

Request info - or I will?



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- ③ If they say it's out of print, tell 'em otherwise...



Nope - you can wholesale back-orders.

Order the first three issues, 3 each - I'll help push 'em.

Oh yeah?

- ④ If they don't believe your favorite will sell, bring in other friends, and PROVE there's a market...



Cheerist! there's more'n one of 'em!

- ⑤ ... Or bring an issue down to the shop and flash it around...



89©

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They don't print 'em any more! \$25.00 for #1 - unsigned.



You can get 'em for \$2.65, signed from the artist. And they're printed on acid-based paper and will rot anyway - plastic cover or no. The Collector's Market is a phoney rip-off.



And if they won't carry it -- take your business elsewhere!!

FURKINDRED



*All animals are equal,
but some animals are
more equal than others.
-- George Orwell*

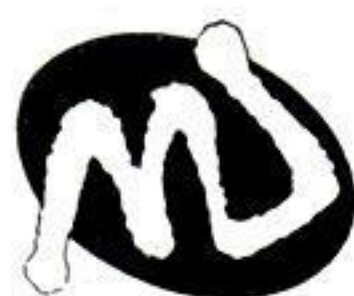
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Available Summer 1991 from MU Press.



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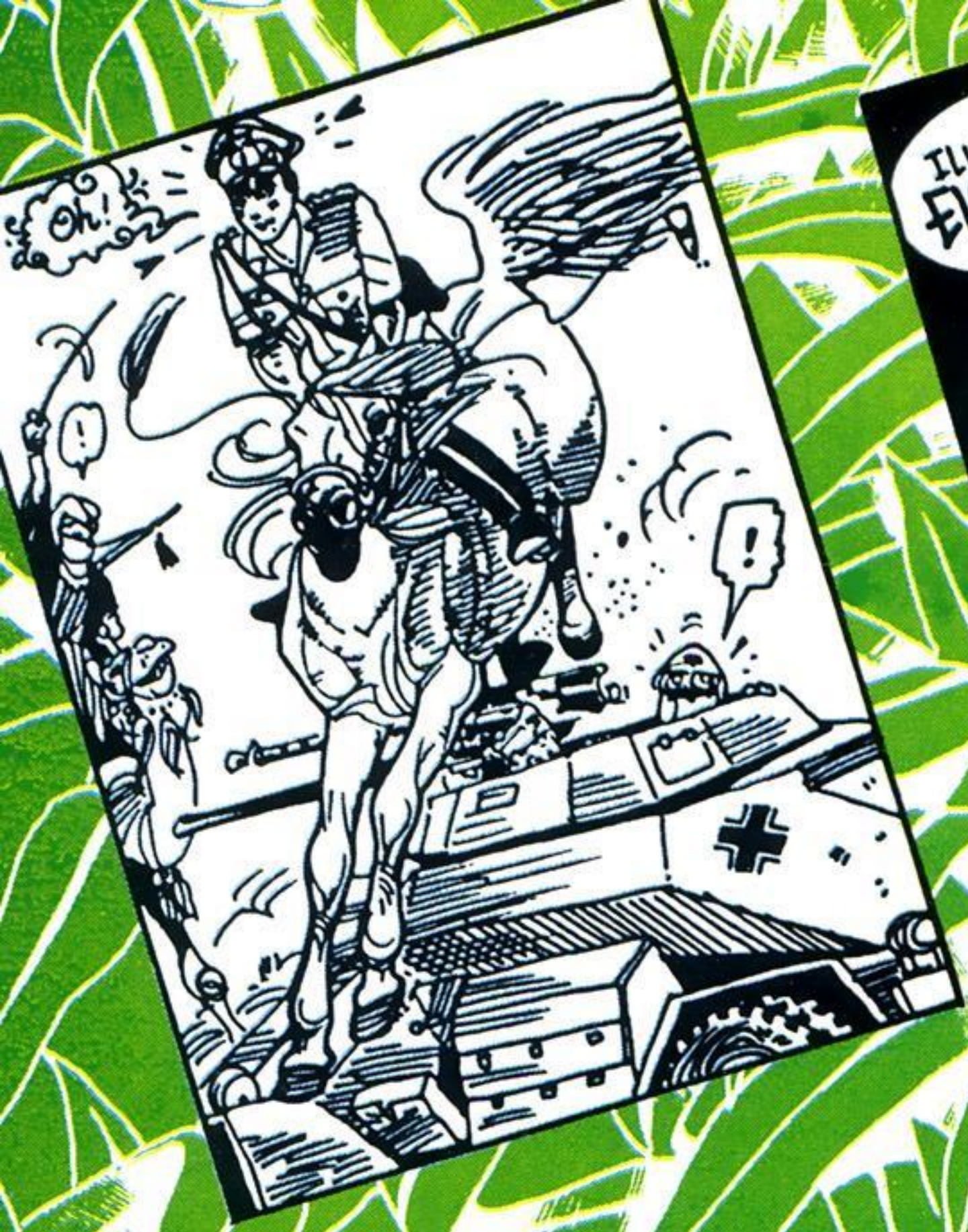
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